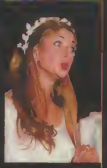


any

# Questions?

paragon
2003

Grant Burdeau,
sophomore



Carolyn Jania,
junior



Tim Johnson,
sophomore

## 8 Just Who Do You Think You Are?

10 **Stereotypes** send **Split Signals**
12 **Homecoming** leaves students in a **Super Daze**
16 **Student Life** mimics a **Rollercoaster Ride**
48 **Seniors** engage in **Childish Acts**
64 **Underclassmen** take their lives to the **Extremes**

## 94 Are You Serious?

96 A **Survival Guide** comes in handy when coping with stressful **Academics**
116 **Sports** stun fans with **Unbelievable Feats**
170 **Clubs** motivate members to discover **What's In It For Me** and **What's In It For Them**

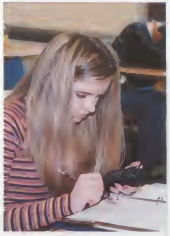
## 194 May We Help You?

196 **Ads** entice students to empty their wallets as they face the **Incredible Shrinking Dollar**
232 Search the **Index** to **Find The Answers**


any **Questions?**

## More than meets the eye

**Tangled in a mess** of wires, Matt Lewis, senior, hurries to finish the senior Homecoming float. **With calculator in hand**, Katie Harvey, sophomore, determines correct significant figures for a chemistry problem. **Screaming to the cheerleaders**, Mike Hawryszkow, sophomore, cheers during the pep session through a megaphone.



# Paragon 2003

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any

# Questions?

"My injuries were a stroke of bad luck. Because I was prone to getting hurt, the coaches made comments like 'try not to hurt yourself again.'"

Brandon Platt, junior

**Who's that short guy with the walkie-talkie?"**
"Who, LAB?"
"No, that one talking to Trip."
"Oh, you mean Mr. Gandolfi."

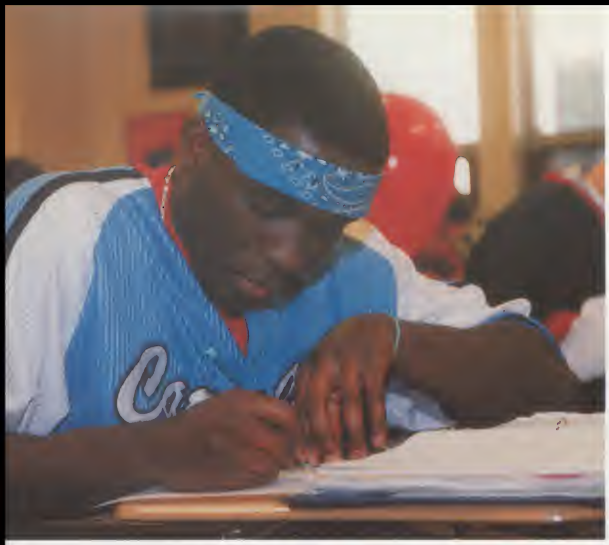
*With the announcement of Mr. Al Gandolfi as the new assistant principal, you witnessed the administration shuffle positions. After former principal Dr. Michael O'Connor moved to the Central Office as Assistant to the Superintendent, Mr. Steven Tripenfeldas advanced to principal. You never pondered what the administration did all day until they informed you about the dress code crackdown. You cringed at having to shelf your favorite hot pink Express halter top and hide your new belly button ring until the summer.*

**"Hi, would anyone like to buy a *Crier*?"**
"You can't come in! We'll form a line."
"What? I need to give one to Mrs. Podkul."
"Fine, but you can't tell anyone how many boxes we have!"

*By stuffing 273 shoeboxes with everything from a 24-pack of Crayola crayons to tartar-control toothpaste, you partied with math teacher Mrs. Jacqueline Podkul's Study Hall after winning Student Government's holiday contest to fill the most gift boxes for needy children. Scanning* the Scoop, *Student Government's newsletter for program updates, you noticed the increased number of service and social events, such as a recycling program for cans, the Munster Idol contest and an informal winter dance.*

**"So what's the fruit of the day?"**
"I hope it's the pineapple cup."
"No way, I'm all about the kiwis."

*As you heaped as many carrots as you could into the petite Styrofoam bowls, you took the free food for granted. Little did you know that you participated in the Free Fruit and Vegetable Pilot*



## Louder than words

**Dressing for Homecoming week,** Max Ntiamoah, senior, quickly finishes a pre-calculus worksheet. **While they dance the** night away, Victor Zerngast, senior, and his date Jill Adams, Cavit senior, flaunt their moves. **During passing period seniors** Nidhi Kansal and Janushi Dalal and sophomore Alyssa DeBold talk about their day. **Gingerly grabbing their prey,** Mark Balicki and Kristina Standley, sophomores, dissect a frog for zoology class. **Twenty-five minutes before** school starts, Steve Alspach, freshman, rifles through his backpack on his way to first hour.

# Say what?

"Music made Study Hall a relaxing place to do homework. It made the distractions of people talking and playing games go away."
**Brad Elias, sophomore**

"Using facial expressions in sign language during games helped us learn how to sign properly and use correct expressions if we ever communicated with a real deaf person."
**Jessica Montella, senior**

"The unveiling ... was a special day because not only did the young artists produce Van Gogh's work, but they gifted their paintings to the school so that others could learn from them as well."
**Mrs. Linda Haynes, art teacher**

> All I could feel was the rope burn, and all I could hear was my classmates cheering us on. It was probably one of my favorite moments in high school. Even though we didn't win, we all left the field in smiles.
>
> Rachel Medina, junior

*Program that provided us with a $50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. One of 106 schools chosen in five states, we experimented in an effort to improve eating habits.*

"What time should I be there for the boy/girl meet against LC tonight?"
"It's gonna be packed. Get there early."
**"Big meet for you boys, huh?"**
"Actually, everyone's coming for the girls."

*Shoving open the doors to the pool, you searched for an empty seat in the crowded bleachers at the Lake Central meet. Shedding your coat in the steamy stands, you cheered on the Girls' Swim Team as they swam their way to a 3rd place state ranking. The next night you watched the Boys' Basketball Team, who ranked 2nd in State, devour their competition. You realized that your school excelled in more than just "country-club sports" of tennis and golf. You took pride that your sports teams defied a regional stereotype.*

"I finally got my license, and I can't even get a frickin' parking space."
"Well, I'm not much better off. My spot is all the way out in bufu by the middle school. I have to walk a mile to get to Premetz first hour. I got a Saturday already."
**"Who took all the spots?"**

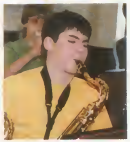
*With 257 seniors and 198 juniors dominating the 481 parking spots, you grumbled when Student Services wait-listed you among the 32 unfortunate drivers who craved the plastic, red-and-white parking tag. After your mom planted a goodbye kiss on your cheek, you hopped out of the van at 7:43 a.m. You scrambled to first hour to slip into the 31st desk in the crowded classroom.*

"That council meeting was so long."
"True story. I bet Speechies are the only ones who stay after on Fridays."
**"Wait…who are all these people in the Commons?"**

## Just spit it out

**Voraciously gnawing at the** watermelon, Anton Shishkan, junior, rushes to finish it before his competitors. **With a steady hand,** junior Stephanie Coulis, paints an "M" on junior Danielle Gillund's face to display Homecoming spirit. **Concentrating on the Critical** Thinking Test, Thomas Paliga, freshman, pores over the questions to check his answers. **With their arms linked,** Courtney Mambourg, senior, and Kara Clark, junior, walk down the hall showing off their rivaling class t-shirts.

# Say what?



"Band took a lot of hard work, but when you played for an audience, it was all worthwhile." **Matt Tepperman, freshman**

"Seniors attacked me with lipstick as soon as they found out I was a freshman. It was all in the fun of homecoming." **Sarah Steele, freshman**

"I read it to see what the main concerns were in our school and what people talked about." **Susan Valand, junior**

> Lots of people got to see you march, and it showed that you were proud to be in band and didn't mind doing it.
>
> Kirstin Bularzik, freshman

*Among the other 91 players in Ping-Pong Club, you gathered every Friday afternoon to flaunt your talent at the tables and battle your way to one of the top two teams. As one of 28 organizations, Ping-Pong Club satisfied only one of your desires. The newly created Couture Club and Amnesty International provided you with two new extra-curricular options.*

**"What's your opinion on the Iraq situation?"**
"If we have the UN's support, we should go to war. However, we should try to resolve things through diplomatic means first."

*Tearing away from the usual social studies routine, you listened to three veterans lure you into their compelling tales of experiences in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. As the veterans retold the impact of war, you finally realized the gravity of the country's current diplomatic tension. You nervously anticipated President Bush's decision on whether to go to war.*

**"So what are you reading for SSR?"**
"*Oedipus Rex*, an ancient Greek tragedy."
"Oh really? I'm reading a tragedy too. It's an article in *Cosmo Girl* about Justin and Britney's big breakup."

*To enhance critical thinking skills, Mondays during second semester found students and staff alike reading for fun during Sustained Silent Reading (SSR). As part of Public Law 221's requirement for ongoing school improvement, the School Improvement Team tackled critical thinking skills with SSR and the Cornell Critical Thinking Test. You finally partook in the Harry Potter hysteria by brushing the dust off the series' first book you bought four years ago.*

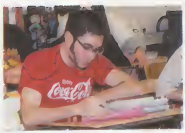
By asking questions, believing rumors, or even reading the announcements, you sought the truth. Just when you thought you had everything figured out, something new came along to boggle your mind.

You asked for it. You got it.

## Any questions?

# Say what?

"You had more information if you used the computer than if you were just looking in the book. You were able to memorize everything better."
**Mark Everette, sophomore**



"I spent a fraction of the money other people spent [on clothes]. I dressed the way I did to stand out from the crowd."
**Mike McCullough, senior**

"We went to 5:30 a.m. practice every morning. By 7 a.m., we were hungry and stopped in the cafeteria to get a quick breakfast before going off to class."
**Tony Gallagher, junior**

## Picture perfect

**With pen in hand,** Austin Flahaven, sophomore, draws the quills of a feather. Drawing feathers taught students about line movement. "It trained your hand to keep steady and prepared you for more complicated drawings," Austin said. **Grabbing the carrots** and celery, Ann-Marie Sands, senior, enjoys the free food from a USDA grant. **After school let out** early, freshmen Chris Stassin, Andrew Kitchell, Ken Florke and Josh Vega head to the football field for the Homecoming pep rally. **During Red, White and Blue Day** of spirit week, Bobby Romano, freshman, expresses his patriotism. "[My clothes] showed my faith in our country by how dedicated I was, and I always stuck with it," Bobby said.

## Burn baby burn

As she struggled to keep the Junior Class ahead, Amanda Shike, junior, put her best effort into the Homecoming pep rally's tug-of-war game. "Since Homecoming of freshman year, a group of girls in my grade had always made beaters with our name and "Class of '04" on it," Amanda said. "We decided to spice things up a little by writing "taking over the show—juniors" in response to the senior shirts that read "just running the show." When the seniors gave off that attitude, we just weren't going to sit back and let them win that easily. We had to challenge them. They were practically asking people to react somehow. No arguments were meant to be started. "It was all in good fun."

## How does she expect us to dry our hair in five minutes?

"I know. It's already bad enough that we have to be in a bathing suit in front of guys."

"Well, at least our locker room doesn't smell as bad as the guys' does."

"Yeah. Hey, let's hurry and leave so we're not late."

"Good call. Wow, it's so much cooler out here! Hey, look at those senior girls down the hall."

"Yeah, they think they're so cool by wearing shirts that say 'Just Runnin' the Show.'"

"They don't *run the show*! What show?"

"And how 'bout the juniors who tried to copy?"

"Whatever. I don't care about them. Hey, are you excited about the concert tonight?"

"Oh, I wanted to talk to you about that. I have to cancel. I'm really sorry, but Joey finally asked me out on a date. We're going to the movies."

"Whoa—you cancelled our month-long plans? You're choosing some boy over your friends?

# just who do you think you are?

*Mastering the art of changing from a bathing suit into street clothes without letting the towel fall onto the slimy tiles, freshmen coped with the struggles of high school living. Sophomores shed their trapper keepers and traded them for backpacks, finally achieving a comfort level. Juniors and seniors battled to outdo each other in school spirit with t-shirt wars. While seniors contradicted their pre-conceived maturity level with the occasional childish act, the rest of the student body shifted personalities, ranging from one extreme to another.* ***So, what are you trying to prove, anyway?***

### Words to live by

**With balloons tied around** his head, Marc Strick, senior, fools around during Homecoming spirit week. **Waiting for a ride**, Joel and Jordan Barnes, sophomores, spend time together after school. "I didn't know what it was like not living with a twin," Joel said. "I'd never known any other lifestyle." **Out on the dance** floor, seniors Aubrey Burdeau and Peach Roman-Lagunas, jam to the music. "Even if I looked stupid, dancing was better than sitting in a chair," Aubrey said.

# Name CALLING

**Of all the cliques that crowded the halls, which label tagged you best?**

**1. As the 2:45 p.m. bell sounds, you:**

a) head to Gators to beef up for the basketball season
b) hurry to the school bus and start your AP Chemistry homework
c) sprint to your appointment at the Bug-a-Boo tattoo parlor to engrave a black cross onto your shoulder

**2. When you discover you have the house to yourself for the entire Spring Break, you:**

a. plan to host the biggest bash of the year
b. spend the week catching up on the latest gossip in Quantum Physics Digest
c. buzz your head into a multi-colored mohawk

**3. How could you best spend a Friday night?**

a. scout out Griffith's defensive line at the weekly football game
b. bury yourself in the reference section of the public library
c. grab your skateboard to perfect your half-fakey at the local skatepark

**Mostly A's: Jock** – Having more muscle mass than brain cells, you prefer pumping iron over school

**Mostly B's: Nerd** –Your obsession with getting straight A's lands you in the doctor's office with an ulcer at the age of 20.

**Mostly C's: Skater** – Forget that homework, you'd rather throw on another baggy Element t-shirt and hit up a local punk concert

**None of the above: Just You** – Free from stereotypical labels, you don't fall into any one category. You invent your own identity.

### In STYLE

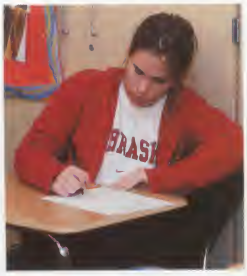
Snug in her seat, Jenna Snedden, senior, studies in cozy clothes. Students chose comfort over fashion when dressing for school. "School started too early to dress up," Jenna said. "Wearing clothes that I wasn't comfortable in seemed pointless and a waste of time and effort."

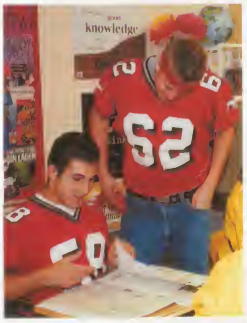
### Chef "BOY"ARDEE

Chopping up onions Sam Golfis, sophomore, works to make a meal in Food and Wellness. Sam said he found that girls really were not better cooks. "The guys in my class cooked better than the most of the girls," Sam said, "The girls were always the ones that burnt everything."

### Tough CALL

While using her cell phone to call for a ride home after school, Dana Ritter, freshman, sits with Lindsay Banka, freshman, in the heated foyer to stay warm. "I couldn't wait to get my license," Dana said. "It's so hard to get around without a car, having a cell phone was a necessity."





### Sporting SMARTS

In class, juniors Tony Spinosa and Pete Ciric read the lastest *Crier*. "Some people thought that just because we were jocks, we didn't read anything," Tony said. "We were like regular people, and some of us did like to read."

**food FOR THOUGHT**
With snacks of celery and apples, Nikki Williamson, senior, helps Angela Sowinski, sophomore, in chemistry. Seniors cracked the selfish persona through tutoring.

**making WAVES**
In Honors Pre-Calculus, Julie Kiekenapp, junior, starts the wave. "Although the class was filled with lectures, we did some crazy things," Julie said.

As she parked her 1987 beige Volvo between a shiny BMW and a sleek Mercedes Benz, Dijita Sundi, junior, testified to the smothering Munster pretense. On her first day of school, she passed through the spotless glass doors into the high school palace.

Strolling through the pristine white hallways, she scoffed at the egotistical student body decked out in Abercrombie wear. With these sights in mind, could anyone discredit the image of the typical Munster snob? Just ask Dijita.

"When people saw my car, they were probably like, 'wow, she must not be that well-off,'" Dijita said. "But looks can be deceiving. My dad offered to buy me a new car if I got straight A's, but I chose not to. It wasn't a matter of money. At 16, I didn't deserve that great of a car."

The deviation from the upper-middle class image transfered from the parking lot onto the basketball court. Ascending to the No. 2 state ranking, the Boys' Basketball Team challenged the illusory label of a complacent suburb.

"When I coached at Merrillville for 10 years, I bought into the whole rich kid persona," Coach Mike Hackett, health and safety teacher, said. "But after I got to know them, I realized that not all the kids were that way. My main goal was to establish some pride in this program. There were some people who thought our team had talent, but didn't play hard when the going got tough. This year, dedication wasn't a question."

Standing out among a sea of 22 girls, Mark Everette, sophomore, dismissed the typical male image. The only "dad" in Child Development , Mark carried a 10-pound flour baby for two weeks.

"It was all cool; I was just like one of the girls," Mark said. "I didn't let things people said get to me because it was all false. Who ever thought that guys couldn't do the same things girls could?"

By revving their rundown car or mustering courage against misguided notions, students and faculty armed themselves to strip off the labels to reveal a life in a not-so-perfect world.

Straying from stereotypical labels, students send out

# Split SIGNALS

**Chain Gang**
Cheering on their classmates during the pep rally, juniors Kim Balzer, Milena Medakovic, Nila Karanikic, Emily Jones, and Lindsay Mambourg hope for a Junior Class victory. The class rivalry made the pep rally more exciting according to Lindsay. "It wouldn't be as much fun if there wasn't some competition," Lindsay said. "You were more motivated to cheer because it was for a cause."

**All-out War**
As the tug-of-war competition at the homecoming pep rally gets under way, freshmen Illissa Gershman, Tomiko Toyama and Sara Grabarczyk struggle to to beat the seniors. Although they lost within two seconds of starting the game, they went on to win the spirit competition because they stayed in the stands until the end of the pep session.

**On Fire**
Loading the float onto the truck, the Junior CEC prepares for the parade. "We were concerned people might misinterpret our theme; but once we put in all the hard work, the float conveyed our message well," Mike Friedman, junior, said.

Mr. Kent Lewis, business teacher, and Mr. Jim Prasopoulos, West Lake teacher

John Hansen, sophomore

Stephanie Brajak, sophomore

From parade floats to tug-of-war, students catch the Homecoming fever

# Super Daze

With watermelon dripping from their chin and a sore throat from cheering at the pep session, students enter Homecoming after a week of spirited expressions of personality. Through a theme of Superheroes, flocks of bikers, cowgirls and soldiers swarm the hallways as each truck through spirit week, leaving his mark on the days' events.

## Dressed to thrill

Strutting into the empty Jewel at 11:30 p.m., Alex Feldman, senior, headed straight for the flowers. Passing by the red roses and white lilies, Alex picked out a red carnation to add a 50's mobster touch to his blue 70's tuxedo, white shirt and suspenders for the seniors' "organized crime/army" spirit day.

"I had a cousin who used to be in the Mafia," Alex said. "He used to be Al Capone's driver and was John Dillinger's soulmate. While everyone else dressed up in army clothes, I decided to dress up in organized crime. My dad found his old 70's tuxedo, and I decided to wear it so I would look like I was in the Godfather."

Whether rummaging through the back of their parents' closets or tracking down a long-lost neighbor, seniors used every connection they had to pull together the most unique and innovative costumes. For Greg Pottorff, senior, uniqueness involved spandex.

While other seniors flaunted black leather pants and Harley Davidson t-shirts for Monday's "biker day" theme, Greg adapted the idea to apply to professional bicyclists. Locating an old neighbor who used to ride in marathons, Greg bor-rowed green biker shorts, a blue shirt and a black helmet.

"I just wanted to have fun with 'biker day,'" Greg said. "The idea to add a little twist to it just popped into my head. Everyone was thinking motorcycle, but I wanted to dress up as a bicycle rider. Everyone just laughed when I walked down the halls. I didn't care what they thought of me; the best part was to hear their laughing."

## Class warfare

With the "1-2-Freshmen" strategy running through her mind, Tamiko Toyama, freshman, clenched the rope in her hands. She anxiously awaited the announcer's signal to pull the rope.

In order to win the tug-of-war competition during the Homecoming pep rally, the freshmen came up with a "seemingly foolproof" strategy, according to Tamiko.

"We were going to have someone say '1-2-Freshmen' and then let go because being against the seniors, we knew were going to lose anyway," Tamiko said. "This plan

Steve Garcia, senior

Grant Burdeau, sophomore

Matt Tepperman, freshman

*continued from page 13*

# Super Daze

didn't work out quite right because nobody let go when we did it."

Tamiko blamed the loss on a lack of fairness between the sizes of the two teams and to their lack of preparation.

"We needed more fair competition," Tamiko said. "We were freshmen, not even the large freshmen. The seniors were way stronger than us. We also didn't set up in any particular order, which was another reason why we lost."

After the competition ended, the freshmen accepted their defeat. Tamiko considered the loss an embarrassment. "We weren't upset because we knew it was unfair competition," Tamiko said. "We felt they did this just to eliminate the freshmen fast. We lost within two seconds of starting the game. It was pitiful and embarrassing."

## Hope floats

With tool in hand and a vision in mind, Mark Balicki, sophomore, drilled the parts for the sophomore Spiderman float.

"I got involved because I liked construction work," Mark said. "I helped with all the physical stuff, such as setting the goal post, stapling the designs, and gluing the signs on the side of the truck."

Although he felt overwhelmed with the amount of work involved, Mark kept an optimistic attitude. The sophomores spent nine hours constructing their float, far fewer than the uper classmen.

"Everyone had their own idea of how to make parts of the float, which made it difficult to agree on one thing," Mark said. "Construct-ing Spiderman was especially difficult."

Space inside the garage proved too tight for the design's height . Moving outdoors, they continued to build.

"It was a pain to get out of the garage because we had to take a part off," Mark said. "It took away quality working time to reattach it after we moved it."

With the float complete, Mark and his classmates proudly cheered on their finished product. The float finished in third place–out of three.

**Woodworking**
Hammering in the nails, Billy Lewis, junior, builds the base of the Junior Class float. Even though he worked with his classmates until 1:30 p.m., their hard work paid off when their float won first place. "It showed our class and school spirit," Billy said. "It was fun to be with everyone in our grade."

Mike Stoffregen, senior

Mark Webster, freshman

Juniors Sheiphali Gandhi and Elise Eldert

Lauren Hamblin, senior

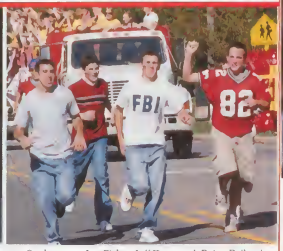
Chris Wey, junior

**Flying High**
With the oversized Munster flag in hand, Paul Sikora, senior, marches through the Homecoming parade, leading the rest of the band. Members of the high school, middle school and community grabbed a curbside view to cheer on the passing floats and cars.

**In Good Spirits**
Inching their way down Columbia Avenue in a Target spirit truck during the Homecoming parade, the sophomores cheer on their class. They screamed at the top of their lungs to the students that lined the streets, professing that they exuded the most spirit out of all four grades.

Sara Harvey, junior and Andrew Harvey, freshman

Megan Coyne, senior



Sophomores Jon Fisher, Jeff Darmond, Bojan Rajkovic, and Zak Boswell

Homecoming princesses seniors Aubrey Burdeau escorted by Joey Manderino, Gabi DeLuna escorted by Greg Pottorff, Kate Hanas escorted by Dave Noel, Gina Nuzzo escorted by Adam Rothschild, and Peach Roman-Lagunas escorted by Gabe Culberg wave to the crowd as Queen Amy Hayes dances in the arms of seniorJeff Harris.

# wake up call

From driving through red lights to running down the halls to enter first hour on time, students who wake up late suffer from a lack of sleep. Find out if you are sleep-deprived by counting the number of times you answer yes.

1. Do you sometimes sleep through your alarm clock?
2. Do you usually hit the snooze control for a few more minutes of sleep?
3. Do you find that getting out of bed in the morning is usually a struggle?
4. On weekends do you sleep longer than you normally do on school nights?
5. Do you find it more difficult to attend to details on homework or routine chores than it used to be?
6. Do you sometimes find yourself dozing off while reading or watching TV?
7. When you are a passenger in a vehicle on long trips, do you commonly find yourself tired or dozing off?
8. Do you tend to get sleepy during lectures or at meetings?
9. Do you drink more than four cups of coffee, tea, or pop during the day?

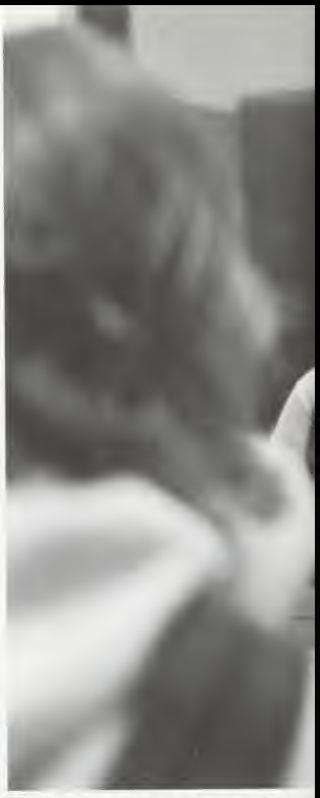
**0-3: Sleeping Beauty**
Congratulations! You are probably fulfilling your daily requirement of sleep.

**4-7: May Cause Drowsiness**
Be careful. Your performance might suffer from sleep deprivation.

**8-9: Sleepless in Munster**
Catch up on sleep before you have health problems!

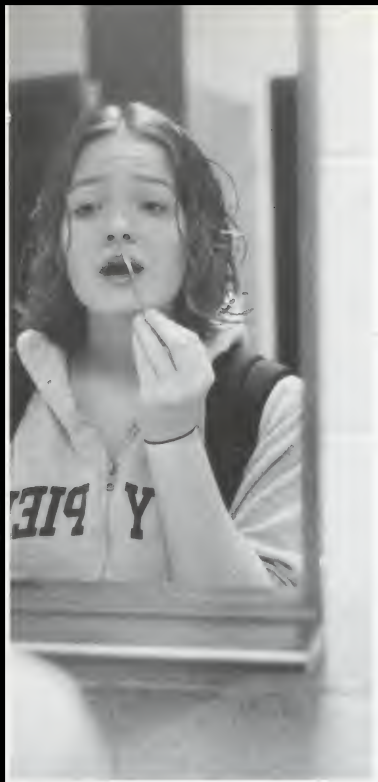
**perking up**
Before school starts, Kristen Shoffner, senior, pours coffee into a thermos to drink during school. "I loved coffee," Kristen said. "It woke me up because I always took longer to get going in the morning."

**making an appearance**
After arriving at school, Alex Morley, junior, stops in the bathroom to apply lip gloss. "I didn't always have time at home because my sister was always rushing me," Alex said. "It was a normal habit."



**bar hopping**
After morning swim practice, Lisa Reitmann, senior, Abby Homans, freshman, Jessica Brakulis, sophomore, and Liz Hinkleman, junior, eat and do homework at the Breakfast Bar. The girls tried to squeeze in time to go after getting dressed.

**got milk?**
By waking up at 6:15 a.m., Paul Malayter, sophomore, finds time to eat Frosted Mini Chex for breakfast. "I always ate breakfast because I couldn't concentrate during school if I didn't eat," Paul said. "I got into a rhythm that made life easier."



*Whether students eat breakfast, ride the bus or attend zero hour, they adjust their morning routines to fit around their schedules*

# applying *your own* routine

**With less than half** an hour to shower and dress, Brad Dunham, sophomore, scrambled to get ready for school. After this daily morning rush, he ran out to catch the 7:25 a.m. bus.

"The driver didn't wait for me if I wasn't at the curb," Brad said. "I decided to make my house a bus stop instead of using the real one. He stopped there for me but never waited."

Although Brad turned 17 before the year started, he still didn't have his driver's license. Even though he had to adjust to a new morning routine and didn't have a car, he didn't mind.

"It was funny anyway because we had assigned seats since the kids were so bad," Brad said. "But sometimes I missed the bus and had to walk because my mom wouldn't take me."

Other students didn't run as late in the morning as Brad did. Alex Pavkovich, freshman, usually arrived at school with 20 minutes to spare. She spent that time with her closest friends whom she didn't see during school due to schedule differences.

"I enjoyed having extra time because unlike some of my friends, I wasn't rushed," Alex said. "I could do what I wanted, I could see teachers if I had questions about homework, or I could plan what I would do after school with friends."

Those taking a zero hour class needed to wake up an extra hour early in the morning. Lydia Carle, senior, did not look forward to this morning change for Project Biology.

"I didn't like waking up so early, so I didn't," Lydia said. "My morning routine was a lot shorter, and I still got up a lot earlier than most people who didn't have zero hour."

Students in Lydia's class did enjoy some benefits to having an early start to their school day, however. A basket of fruit or a loaf of the teachers' banana bread often awaited them, and the typical morning traffic did not cause problems.

"It was a lot faster to get to school," Lydia said. "There was no line and no one was ever in my spot. And the teachers were always in a good mood. Mr. Franklin was a jolly man."

Some students woke up early voluntarily. Alex Cheng, senior, traveled to Wild Bean a couple times a week to purchase a dark roast coffee and possibly a muffin or bagel to have during first hour. Since he lived close to the BP gas station on Calumet Ave., he did not have to travel too far out of his way.

"It was hard to focus in the morning, and this kept me from falling asleep during my classes that dragged on," Alex said.

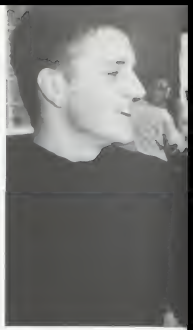
As the bus pulled up to Brad's stop after school, he got off with some freshman neighbors. Brad cracked up as they shouted, "Get a car!"

**lost in a book**

Before school starts, Julie Nelson, sophomore, crams for her modern world history test. "I studied again because I was trying to make it more fresh in my mind," Julie said.

### down on the farm

While chowing down during their lunch period, sophomores Bojan Rajkovic and Brittany Bohling discuss their Homecoming week activities. "My friends and I were always weird around each other," Brittany said. "Spirit week just gave us the perfect opportunity to go all out for something."



### getting the down low

On their way back from lunch, seniors Leslie Parker, Justin Gulotta, Marc Strick, Katie Schlesinger and Peach Roman-Lagunas crack jokes before fouth hour. "I sat there everyday with my boys," Peach said. "We talked about sports, chicks, and college football. It was probably the most memorable semester in my high school career."

### looks can kill

Decked out in a blue floral dress, Tom Paliga, freshman, celebrates Homecoming Friday in his Spanish class. Brainstorming ways to show his spirit, Tom looked to his older brother for inspiration. "He went to breakfast in a dress every Saturday morning before the Purdue football game," Tom said. "I wanted to show spirit in the same way."

# just push play

Besides finding relief in the graphing functions of a TI-86 calculator, math students discovered a quick way to have some in-school fun

**640** calculators handed out to math students

**74.2%** of students store games in their calculator

**30.4%** of students named *Phoenix* as their favorite calculator game

**$100** amount Neema Shah, senior, paid for a lost TI-86 calculator after the first semester

"I played games every time it got boring in physics. That's why I got bad grades. I probably spent hundreds of dollars on batteries."
Mike Strain, junior

*182 math students surveyed*

### hit the sack

During the quick seven-minute passing period, Shawn Pizzuto, sophomore, passes the hackey sack to sophomores Nick Capizzani, Eli Lopez, and Marko Djuric. "We used to eat lunch real fast and head down to North so we could play," Shawn said. "Then the school told us that we couldn't hackey sack there any more. There were still people who played near the library, but *we* got caught. That was so retarded."

*To alleviate the day-to-day boredom at school, students invent innovative forms of entertainment*

# fun and games

**With the teacher absent**, the boys used the free class time to make a bet. In exchange for Michael Finley in his online fantasy basketball league, Andrew Lee, junior, wanted Paul Cowgill, junior, to perform an embarrassing act.

The boys brainstormed ideas for the entire hour. One proposition required Paul to walk into Subway and order a BLT for "me and my two pals" with no one beside him. They made the deal and finalized the plans for his daring task.

"I loved screwing people in trades," Paul said. "It was a wonderful feeling even though Andrew knew it was really unfair. I just really liked fantasy basketball."

With activities like fantasy sports, students found creative ways to have fun in school. However, with Rachel Abrahms, freshman, social interaction with friends took work.

After bonding with Jessica Conger, freshman, over the summer, schedule differences limited the girls' conversations to hand-written messages exchanged before fifth hour.

"The amount of fun you had with friends determined how your day went," Rachel said. "We kept close by writing notes to each other and leaving them in each other's locker."

Aside from the short period students spent together in the hallways, socializing took place in the food court as well. Using their free time during lunch, a table of seniors developed a weekly Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament to witness an unlucky individual perform a daunting mission.

"The ultimate challenge was to eat a whole stick of butter," Steve Coulis, senior, said. "Ryan Reuth [senior] eventually lost. At first he said it would be easy because he'd just cut it into small pieces and pop them like candy. Amazingly enough, he was able to hold it all down in the end."

Devising their own system of challenges to pass the time, sophomores Irina Hnatusko and Kristen Kendall played Truth or Dare every day in Study Hall. Dared by Irina, Kristen stood atop a desk and screamed, "Oh yea, baby, oh yeah!"

"The game was kind of childish, but if all we did was study all the time, we would have been drones," Kristen said. "I even thought the teacher enjoyed our pranks."

**fit for a king**
As part of his 18th birthday celebration, Dave Watson, senior, waltzes with Mrs. Nancy Hastings, *Crier* adviser. "They forgot my birthday," Dave said. "So to make up, I had to dance with Mrs. Hastings. She grabbed me by the arms and physically made me dance."

With the new players on his fantasy basketball roster, Paul walked into Subway to fulfill his end of the bargain. Although the situation may have caused embarrassment, Paul performed the act in the name of fun and games.

# all locked up

Instead of spending time with friends on her half day, Rachel Anderson faces an afternoon of headaches

**1:05** decides to go out to eat at Tortilla Grill on Ridge Rd.

**2:10** goes outside, puts the key in and the car sputters as Rachel panicks when she realizes that her battery died

**2:12** calls her friend, Kersten Kelly, junior, to come and jump her car for her

**2:30** sees that she locked her keys in the car after jumping it

**2:32** calls the police who tell her they can't help her because she is over the state line

**2:34** decides to call a locksmith from Lansing

**3:30** locksmith arrives an hour later in his black truck and unlocks the door

**4:02** Rachel gets home and attempts to enjoy the rest of the day

**eying the prize**
Lining up his shot, Nick Smith, junior, attempts to sink another ball into the pocket. Nick played pool on weeknights to relax and make some money. "When I played with friends, we usually made bets because it made the game more intense and interesting," Nick said.

**part-time chef**
To satisfy her after-school "munchies," Gordan Radmilovic, sophomore, cuts herself a piece of the Serbian cake she baked. "Cooking was the perfect way to break the monotony of the night and take my mind off of school," Gordana said.

**happy meal**
Enjoying a dinner together at Applebee's, juniors Dana Sarber and Sara Dobrinich keep each other company. The two usually had dinner together after their speech practices. "It was a good way to "de-stress" and spend time with my best friend Sara," Dana said.

**bookworm**
In order to catch up on his reading, Kyle Martinez, senior, finds a quiet spot to sit down at Borders. "The whole 'bookstore mood' was appealing," Kyle said. "Borders had a large selection of books and it was quiet so it was my favorite place to read," Kyle said.

*To escape from the hassles of the school day, students make the most of weeknight freetime to vary their everyday routines*

# shooting for a good time

## Pulling into the Southlake

Mall parking lot on a Wednesday night, cousins Anna Rak, sophomore, and Joanna Biestek, freshman, debated whether they should shop for shoes or clothes first. Because they only had two hours left until the mall closed, they planned their time out wisely.

After a day of lectures and tests, Anna and Joanna used shopping as a form of entertainment on school nights. Living together made it easier for the two to make after-school plans.

"I didn't always have to call someone when I wanted to go out," Anna said. "Whenever I had free time, I would see what Joanna was doing and if she felt like going shopping or going to see a movie or whatever she felt like doing that day."

Having mutual friends made it easier for the two to understand each other's problems and share stories, according to Joanna. On nights when they couldn't go out, simply having someone to talk to and understand seemed enough.

"Reminiscing and confiding in each other was always relaxing and fun," Joanna said. "We didn't always have to go out to have a good time. Talking was enough to take our minds off of school and allow us to spend time together."

In order to break the monotony of the school week, Jim Sunderland, junior, and his friends found their own escape by doing things like driving to Chicago.

"Since we were old enough, our possibilities were endless," Jim said. "We could go out to eat, go see a movie, or even go to a concert in Chicago if that's what we wanted to do that night. If we just sat around at somebody's house, we would end up complaining about school, which defeated the purpose of trying to forget about it until the next morning."

Other students, however, preferred staying in over going out. A game of pool in a friend's basement proved more relaxing and easier on the wallet since going out meant having to spend money, according to Kevin Strbjak, sophomore.

"Going over to my friend's house and playing pool was the perfect way for me to relax after a tiring school day," Kevin said. "It was something fun to do that was better than watching TV but not as tiring or expensive as going out. Another perk was getting to spend time with my friends."

With an hour and fifteen minutes of shopping time left, Anna and Joanna decided to check out their favorite shoe store. Their choice would aid in keeping their minds off school for the night.

**playing it by ear**
Tuning his guitar, Jason Gott, sophomore, goes over music in his head. Jason adopted this hobby two years ago. "It was one of my favorite pasttimes," Jason said. "It was relaxing, and all I needed to have to do it was a guitar," Jason said.

*Going out on the weekend allows students to catch up with friends despite their busy schedules*

# making-up *for lost* time

**Searching through heaps of** garbage, Amanda Stamos, junior, stuffed a turquoise toilet, a rusty ironing board, a baby carriage and more household items into a car. At midnight they used the objects to set up a "room" on a random lawn for entertainment.

Without money Amanda and her friends developed new ways to enjoy weekends. "Dranting," or strategically placing objects on lawns to create an outdoor room, provided inexpensive fun and occupied the girl's time. The girls coined the term "dranting" after a friend named Drant introduced them to the activity.

"Dranting was always a new experience because we found things like washing machines, televisions, yard signs and stereos," Amanda said. "The best part was hearing people's reactions when we told them it was us. It always got a laugh out of whomever we dranted."

While Amanda saved money, other students spent money to have fun. Concerts, movies, dinners, plays and dance clubs entertained students. A variety of activities provided a break for students after a busy week at school, according to Justin Dal Corobbo, junior.

"My friends and I went to concerts to vary our entertainment," Justin said. "Music was a huge part of my personality, and I loved going to concerts just to feel the adrenaline of my favorite bands playing live. It was a rush that I couldn't get through anything else."

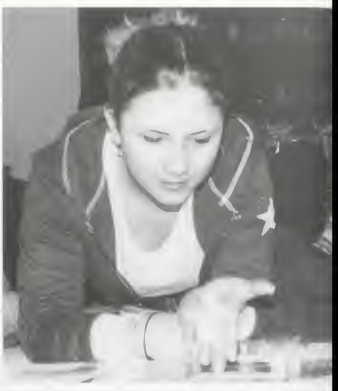
Students' ideas of weekend fun differed; and for some students like Katie Watterson, freshman, fun involved staying home with family. She and her family gathered every weekend to spend time with each other. It gave everyone a chance to join together.

"It was really important to my family and me to spend time together on the weekends," Katie said. "When my relatives came over, we gave each other make-overs, played hide-and-go-seek with cousins and socialized with the extended family. It was a time to bond and spend quality time with people I loved and enjoyed being with."

Religious occasions filled weekend afternoons for students like Chetan Chaubal, sophomore. After spending weekend nights with his friends, he prioritized his day schedule for other things.

"I loved to go out to eat with my friends and watch movies, but I made sure I kept time for my priorities in my life," Chetan said. "I found time to attend Indian cultural events and to get to tennis practice and work to remain balanced."

Amanda and her friends creatively used useless trash to provide entertainment for a night out. They used their imaginations to have fun without spending money. With these odd items, they assembled a new outdoor room for someone with "a lot of character."



**make-over madness**
Armed with curling irons and make-up, Tiffany Thomas, senior, gives a make-over to a friend. She and her friends spent more time on weekends getting ready to leave. "Weekdays were rushed without time for detail," Tiffany said. "I cared because I had time on weekends."

**fun and games**
With dice in hand, Ashley Drobac, sophomore, rolls during her turn in Monopoly. Ashley opted to play games on weekends instead of going out. "Games were a way to spend time with friends without having a lot of money," Ashley said.

**coffee break**
Sipping a foamy coffee, Meghan Guthrie, freshman, listens to a band at the Muse Café. She spent free time attending concerts and relaxing at hangouts. "Weekends gave me a needed break from school to relieve stress," Meghan said.

**sing another tune**
Focused on the sheet music, Gina Selent, senior, sings with her church choir. "I gave back to my community, and I was appreciated for the extra time and effort which made it worthwhile," Gina said.

# battle of the sexes

While boys and girls share similar interests for entertainment, they differ their opinions for the "ideal" all boys' or all girls' night out on weekends

## Boys

- Basketball game and dinner with friends
  *Mike Mashura, sophomore*
- Hockey game and a sports restaurant
  *Jon Pleitner, senior*
- Driving with friends and going to car shows
  *Vishal Patel, junior*

## Girls

- Shopping at the mall and eating in the food court
  *Kate Kerner, junior*
- Romantic movie and Starbucks
  *Nicole Rietmann, senior*
- Slumber parties and a movie in pajamas
  *Shivani Sharma, junior*

**cheer up**
To spend time with friends, Pete Ciric, junior, gossips during the basketball game. "Games gave people a time to interact after a long, busy week at school," Pete said.

**movie marathon**
Browsing the DVD's at Hollywood Video, Kristine Duray, senior, grabs a rental. "On the weekend, my friends and I caught up," Kristine said. "It was relaxing for us."

# pick-up lines

Trying to get a date or letting somebody know how they feel, students resort to pick-up lines to complete the task

15 Are your legs tired? Because you've been running through my mind all day.

14 Wouldn't we look cute on a wedding cake?

13 Do you drink milk because it sure has done your body good.

12 Do you believe in love at first sight or should I walk by you again?

11 You must be wearing space pants. Your butt is out of this world.

10 You must be from Tennessee because you are the *only* "Ten I See."

9 I play the field, and it looks like I just hit a home run with you.

8 You look like an angel. Have I died and gone to heaven?

7 Hi, my name is Chance. Can I have one?

6 Your name must be Campbell's because you are *Mm...Mm....Good.*

5 Let's make fabric softener and *Snuggle.*

4 My love for you is like diarrhea. I just can't hold it in.

3 Your eyes are blue like the ocean, and I'm lost at sea.

2 Mind if I check your tag? Yup, just like I thought, "Made in heaven."

1 If I could rearrange the alphabet, I would put "U" and "I" together.

### king of cards

Phase 10 cards in hand, Zach Holobowski, senior, deals the next round. "It's just more fun to do things with a bunch of people," Zach said. "More laughter, more competition, more talk and more people to split the bill. And you know I'm cheap."

### spread the cheer

Arms raised, seniors Jen Hostetter, Shannon O'Keefe, and Tammy Jones cheer on the football team. "It was more fun cheering with friends than by yourself," Shannon said. "There was more excitement and participation at Homecoming."

### dance fever

Dancing to the music, Renee Albrecht-Mallinger, senior, and Lee Coduti, '02, share a moment. "It was just us," Renee said. "Lee and I went alone because so we didn't have to deal with the hype and panic of going with a group."

### close comfort

Hand in hand, juniors Justine Bauer and Don Yamtich walk down the cross country course. "Knowing he was at the meet cheering me on always encouraged me to put extra effort into my runs," Justine said.

**finding some a"Muse"ment**

Enjoying their night, juniors Joselynn Berg and Rachel Caselton listen to a local band at the Muse Cafe in Lansing. "The Muse was a good place to hang out with your friends, listen to music for a low cost and meet new people from other schools in the area," Rachel said.

*Hanging out with friends or spending the night with that special someone, students fill their freetime by*

# sticking together

**Quickly sprinting up a** friend's walkway, Erin McGuan, junior, slipped and fell on an icy patch of snow. Her group of friends curiously walked out of the house to see Erin on the ground.Seeing humor in the accident, she laughed hysterically. They burst out in hysterics.

"All I thought was, 'Thank God I wasn't going on a date' because I would have been extremely embarrassed," Erin said.

Students chose between going on individual dates and hanging with groups. Uncomfortable feelings plagued students when conversation ended abruptly and "awkward silences" occurred, according to David Chen, sophomore.

"Hanging with my friends took the pressure off the formality of a date," David said. "By being with many people, there was more interaction and everyone felt more comfortable, so they were less reserved and quiet."

Limitations on activities friends did varied in every group. Some outings required more than two peoplein order to work out as planned, making a group crucial.

"There was always someone to rely on and turn to when I needed something," Kelly Markovich, senior, said. "We were crazy when we were together, but that was the special part."

Many students opted to date exclusively instead of going out in groups because of their personal preference. Bryan Chovanec, freshman, found that in group dating, he worried more about entertaining the whole group than he did about paying attention to the person that he should.

"If our friends got into a fight, then our whole night was ruined," Bryan said. "When you dated alone, you didn't have to deal with the constant opinions of others."

Bryan realized that his personality changed when he dated with other couples. He noticed that with his friends present, he acted laid-back and mellow, whereas with his girlfriend, he found himself excited and more personal.

Nicole Greger, senior, shared the same opinion. She agreed that people acted differently with fewer people on the date and liked getting to know the way people presented themselves without the pressure of their peers.

"Dating one-on-one gave me a better perspective on the specific person's feelings," Nicole said. "Guys and girls tended to act differently in front of their friends. Guys usually suppressed their feelings and acted more immature. Girls could act the same way sometimes."

Despite Erin's fall, she never felt embarrassed because she was with her friends. They acted like themselves because they didn't feel the pressure to impress anyone.

*With anxiety bulit-up from daily taxing tasks they perform, students learn to cope*

# address the stress

**Driving from her Calumet** City home to school for the first time since she received her license, Thea Logan, junior, decided to confront the challenge of driving on the highway despite her mother's protest, hoping she would never find out.

If Thea arrived late to her first hour class, she would receive a detention. So Thea chose to ignore her mother's directions, not anticipating the possible consequences.

"It was stressful because I had bad timing," Thea said. "I didn't ask my mother before doing something. I just did it."

As long as she remembered the multiple tasks she had to do, Kristina Kovacevich, freshman, figured she could try to establish her own set of timing. She repeatedly tried to write down assignments in numerous places such as her agenda book, a calendar, folders and notebooks.

When these methods of planning ahead failed, consequences of procrastination made students tired and frustrated. When it came to grades, Andrew Graves, sophomore, depended on a balanced schedule to keep him from studying at the last minute. By taking frequent breaks while working, Andrew attempted to reduce the stress of schoolwork. However, the breaks didn't work out as planned.

"I usually turned to video games [to relieve stress]," Andrew said. "However, when I was done playing, the stress was even worse because I had less time."

Talking to his mother, Paul Sikora, senior, sought advice from a person who could relate to a similar kind of stress.

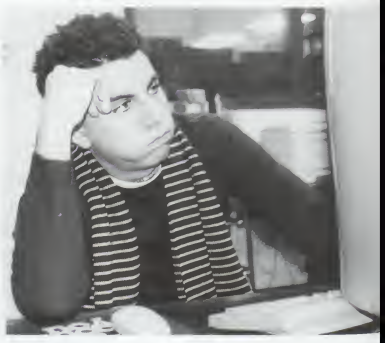
"I talked to my mom," Paul said. "She was going through college then, and we tried to share the pain together."

With the high strung standards of AP Chemistry, Paul tried to avoid procrastination, his so-called "middle name," by starting early on homework to lighten the strenuous burden.

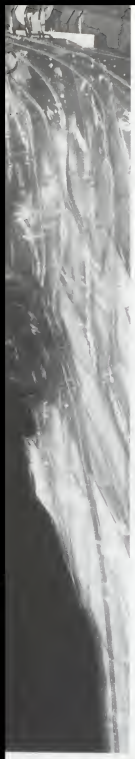
"Once in a while, I had to stay up and pull a one- or two-nighter," Paul said. "Loss of sleep was the punishment I paid."

After arriving at school on time, Thea received a call from her mother asking how she got to school so early. Thea, feeling the guilt of lying to her mother, admitted to using the highway and consequently received a two-week suspension of her driving privileges.

"I had just started driving, and [my mother] was going through the 'Oh my God, my daughter is driving' stage," Thea said. "I had hoped she would eventually get over it."



**deadline drama**
Taking a deep breath during Thursday deadline night, senior Joey Manderino, *Crier* Editor-in-chief, stresses over the upcoming newspaper. "With the stress of each impending deadline, and such a small staff, each person carried such a big burden," Joey said. "It got stressful with so few people doing a large amount of work."



### dress up

As she searches through wedding dresses,while working at Elegance dress shop Aja Aktay, junior, earns some extra pocket money. With a manageable work schedule Aja found she could still handle a job and school. "I choose my job because of the hours that could work around my busy schedule," Aja said.

### practice makes perfect

While focusing intensely on the piano keys to memorize his solo piece, Casey Jedrzejczak, freshman prepares himself for his upcoming piano recital. "When you got in front of a big crowd you didn't want to be so nervous that you forgot everything," Casey said.

# on the edge

Each year students cope with stressful living habits. From home life to school work, teenagers deal with the day-to-day anxiety that comes with high school

**Which weekday did you endure the most stress?**

**63%** admitted that as the school week began so did the stress

**13%** thought cramming for Friday's tests made them tense

**9%** found that on Tuesday, as the work piled up so did the tension

**3%** decided that the last day before the weekend brought pressure

**12%** said that on Wednesday, pressure hit its a climax

**88%** agree that school is the main source of their stress

*320 students surveyed (Jan. 14, 2003)*

### mind bogglers

Concentrating on her critical thinking test, Stefanie Krasic, freshman, attempts to determine the most reasonable answer. "The test was hard because it asked odd questions, things I wouldn't think of knowing," Stephanie said.

### book it

While at the Munster Public Library, Daniel Albrecht-Mallinger, sophomore, browses through books. Reading provided an escape from the busy world around him."It got me away from the hectics of life," Daniel said.

### babe watch

Feeding her little sister, Samantha Skrobot, freshman, dealt with the responsiblity of having a younger symbling to care for. "It made me insane when she wouldn't stop crying, and I had to figure out what was wrong," Samantha said.

*Choosing their own methods of relaxation, students discover how to deal with stress*

# taking a time out

**As the mood of** the party shifted, Michelle McIntyre, junior, cracked the loudest jokes that she could think of. Her effort failed as the party changed from a casual get-together to an all-out make-out session in just a few short minutes.

Michelle soon resented her friend for hosting the party. Growing edgy from the uncomfortable situation, she left the party. She grabbed her three closest friends and retreated to her favorite relaxation escpae, her car.

"I guess I took after my mom in the fact that driving was just really calming," Michelle said. "She always told me that it was something that she really liked to do. Growing up, I found out that my mom and I always had our best conversations when we were talking to each other in the car."

Throughout the course of the year, students developed their own stress-relieving techniques. Gabe Blakeley, freshman, found an outlet for his stress in a regular workout. Living in a boisterous household, he often faced stressful situations at the most inopportune times throughout the day.

"My little brother and sister were always fighting when I was trying to study," Gabe said. "I liked to exercise because it took my mind off those things. You really had to focus and concentrate hard on what you were doing to work out well."

After a stressful day, Gabe also took naps to feel better. He often woke up with an improved attitude and a more refreshed outlook toward his everyday stresses.

Talking over her problems with friends took the stress away from Ashley Drobac, sophomore. She often came to her best friend with concerns about her schoolwork.

"Once I got a bad grade on my chemistry test," Ashley said "I was really bummed out about it. I thought I was going to pass with flying colors. My best friend always tried to find a way to boost my confidence and made me know that I could always do better next time. She was always saying, 'You win some, you lose some. You can't win them all.'"

As with other distressed students, Ashley found comfort in her closest pals. Ashley considered herself lucky to have friends that would help her out under stressful conditions.

Michelle started to relax and forgot about the fight she had at the party as she cruised down 45th Ave. Although her route typically remained the same, her drive length depended on how overwhelmed she felt at that moment. Some days she stayed on the road for a few minutes, sometimes a few hours. Like many of her peers, Michelle found any way to feel like herself again.

**in short order**

After school Christine Barnes, freshman, puts her life in order. "When I took the time to clean, I was able to able to clear my head," Christine said. Once things were organized, I could maintain organization in my personal life."

# low down on stress

When hit with stress, students find ways to cope. While some veg out in front of the TV, others hit the treadmill. Students rank the most effective techniques and decide who to go to for advice when under pressure

**57%** found TV, Internet, or music most effective

**39%** ranked talking with friends as their best choice.

**35%** believed that taking a drive helped most

**34%** liked working out when under pressure

**85%** chose talking to friends over family

*320 students surveyed Jan. 13, 2003*

**gimme a break**
Relaxing in the Commons, juniors Lauren Torres and Kelley Fernandez take time out to talk with Corey Greenya, senior. "Going to the Commons was a chance to take a break from a stressful school day," Kelley said. "A lot of my friends, like Lauren, I didn't get a chance to see throughout the day. This was really our only time to catch up and talk about what was going on."

**cover girl**
Smiling at her friend's hairstyle, juniors Sapna Shah and Suzanne Curtis hang out after school. "I had friends over when I was feeling stressed," Sapna said. "They reminded me that life wasn't always supposed to be so chaotic."

**crunch time**
Stretched out on his living room couch, Joe Hunt, sophomore, watches TV and eats potato chips. "I sat for hours and started to forget about what I needed to get done," Joe said. "It helped me forget about what was bothering me."

**tiny bubbles**
With her eyes closed, Natalia Paez, junior, soaks in a bubble bath. "It was always a comfort for me to put on relaxing music and a few scented candles," Natalia said.

### spirit drive

Cruising down Columbia Ave., juniors Cathy Van Der Giessen and Kristi Smith, take part in the Homecoming Parade. "I volunteered my car because I got extra credit in French, and I felt like I was part of the Homecoming celebration through that," Cathy said.

### mirror image

Eyeing the window display, Alex Morley, junior, deliberates whether she should go in or not. Since Alex got her license in September, she was able hit the road on her own time. "I didn't have to ask for rides; therefore, I had more freedom," Alex said. "I could go anywhere I wanted, whenever I wanted."

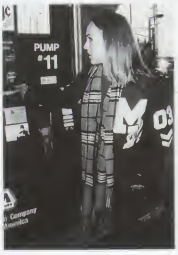
### two's company

Hopping into her car at the end of the school day, Danielle Wilks, sophomore, offers her friend Jennifer Zgorka, sophomore, a ride home. Danielle thought it made more sense to give her friends, who didn't have licenses, rides from school. Rather than hassling their parents to come and pick them up, Danielle offered them a ride.

## out *of* gas

Instead of begging your Mommy to drive your car to the Marathon gas station, learn to pump your own gas like Ashley Velchek, senior

**1** Open your gas tank door and remove the nozzle from its holder




**2** Insert the nozzle into the tank and select your octane level

**3** Watch and wait as you fill up your tank on gas and become car savvy

*With only a handful of activites in town, students need a car to keep themselves occupied and ...*

# on the move

**Turning off the Wacker** Drive ramp, Brandon Thompson, senior, made his way to the annual Blues Fest in Chicago. Along with five other friends, Brandon turned onto Van Buren St. in junior Tony Gallagher's car.

Suddenly, the impatient cab driver behind him honked his horn and caused a startled Brandon to turn without noticing a white Ford Explorer continuing its way down the street. When Brandon finally saw the other car, he tried to brake. They both hit each other in a slow-moving car crash.

"It was a stupid thing [to do] on my part," Brandon said. "It was an inconvenience to depend on something that can crash. I didn't like relying on a machine, but hardly anything was within walking distance. Chicago certainly wasn't."

The lack of activities in Munster put restrictions on what students could do without access to a car. Without even a movie theater, a bowling alley or shopping mall in town, Jia Hou, junior, and his friends suffered through indecisiveness in finding something to do for the night.

"Munster was fairly boring," Jia said. "However, you just dealt with it. For example, over the summer, we would just hang out at different parks. That was how we would spend an entire night—'park hopping.'"

This uncertainty of what to do left students like Jia without any plans. However, those without licenses faced an even more limiting list of options. In the case of Jordan Sunderland, freshman, getting around meant asking for rides.

"On the weekends I liked to go to a party or the movies, but I needed a car because I had to drive places to find stuff to do," Jordan said. "I wanted a car because then you didn't always have to bug people for rides everywhere."

**baby talk**

Not yet old enough to have a license, Allyce Carlson, freshmen, tagged along with three seniors to the Muse Cafe in Lansing. "I felt like a pest whenever I asked for a ride," Allyce said. "I was born in May and one of the youngest people in my grade. It sucked because I wouldn't even get my permit until a year after everyone."

**get the ball rolling**

Moving up the lane, Steven Hus, sophomore, bowls for his team as a part of the Munster Bowling Club. Without a bowling alley in town, students had to drive to Stardust Bowl in Dyer to hit the local lanes.

Car hassles didn't disappear for Brandon, despite not having to ask for rides anymore. After hitting the white Ford Explorer, Brandon suffered the consequence of telling Tony's parents what he had done to their car. Luckily, Brandon and his friends walked away from the crash without any serious injuries. Despite all of Brandon's car problems, they came as a byproduct of wanting to go places to have fun.

# Lights up

With life onstage, behind the curtains, and around the house, plays come together when the director yells...

following the wandering eyes of Amanda Pogach, sophomore, student director Megan Higgins, senior, slipped off her black sandals. Mad that Amanda had again forgotten her focal point, she chucked her shoe at Amanda's feet. Startled, Amanda found her mistake and once again steadied her eyes on her husband Phil (Daniel Albrecht-Mallinger, sophomore).

"When people didn't project or didn't have a focal point, I threw my shoe," Megan said. "It was my way of getting what I wanted. It was not the most conventional directing style, but it worked."

The flying shoes focused all of the actors' attention on the task at hand. As the opening performance neared, Megan needed more ammo to make sure that no mistakes appeared onstage.

"I finally got it a week after she started throwing the shoes at me," Amanda said. "I just kept thinking to myself, 'I don't want her to throw a show at me.'"

After curbing traveling eyes and projecting stunted voices, Megan fulfilled her aim. In the cast circle following the last show, she unwrapped her present to discover an orange miniature high-heeled shoe. Laughing, the cast made one more attempt to remind her of the countless shoes she had thrown at them. They slid off their shoes and threatened to attack her the same way she had done.

Chatting backstage with other cast members, Phillip Shapiro, sophomore, awaited his entrance. He noticed that his voice sounded a bit hoarse with only two days left until the show.

"On Wednesday morning, the day of the final dress rehearsal, I realized my voice was gone," Phillip said. "I didn't even go to rehearsal that day."

To fight the mysterious case of laryngitis, Phillip tried cough drops and staying silent all day. The cast even pitched in to give him a present of chocolate to make him feel better. His voice slowly improved over time.

"I decided during school that I had to perform, even if my voice was still scratchy," Phillip said. "I woke up thinking I couldn't perform. But I worked too hard to let others down."

The cast constantly checked on Phillip. When he finally got his voice back , the relieved cast screamed down the halls, according to Genevive Grdina, sophomore.

Preparing for opening night, Phillip clipped a microphone to his shirt just in case. Luckily, the sound booth didn't need to turn it on. People even told Phillip that his slightly hoarse voice made his criminal character sound tougher.

Gasping for air, Matt Domasica, senior, reached for his inhaler to control his asthma attack one week before opening night. Playing the lead role as Pseudolus in the fall musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, he realized the necessity of good health.

Matt recovered from the attack the next day and atteneded rehearsal. Because each scene needed precise timing, the cast members worked for two

**In order to persuade** him to play a girl, Matt Domasica, senior, serenades Lenny Weiss, senior, in the song "Lovely." "Many times I had to keep from laughing because of the oddity of the situation," Lenny said. "People would look over and make funny faces. Thank goodness I had a veil over me because I knew how foolish I looked. I left my goatee on because it made more of a contrast between the male character and the girl he was supposed to play."

**Trading jokes about the** cooking of Shotzie (Genevive Grdina, sophomore), Amanda Pogach, sophomore, and sophomore Daniel Albecht-Mallinger, play gin. "I tried out for every play," Amanda said. "I loved to act as a part of any play."

With courtesans swooning in the background, Miles Gloriosus (Joey Manderino, senior) flashes a devilish grin as he eagerly awaits the bride he has bought. "This was the most fun I've had with any high school role," Joey said. "I just enjoyed playing such a dynamic part, though my toga length left little to the imagination."

Bitting her nails, seniors Megan Higgins and Nicole Patterson keep watch over the practice for the play *Is There a Comic in the House?* "I want to see how much I can push myself and how much I can motivate my actors," Megan said. "I worked with each actor individually. I try to do a lot of acting warmups and games."

## nothing but the facts

### Is There a Comic in the House?
Dates: Oct. 3 and 4
Director: Megan Higgins
Assistant Directors:
Justin Dal Corobbo
Ashley Tromouliaris

### A Funny Think Happend on the Way to the Forum
Dates: Nov. 15 - 17
Director: Mr. Larry Brechner
Student Director:
Molly Hanson

### Rehearsal for the Murder
Dates: Feb. 13 - 15
Director: Molly Hanson
Assistant Director:
Dan Phillips

## What really went on backstage?

"The time between scenes was really when you got to know your friends. We talked, sang to Cd's and made food runs to Subway."

**Carolyn Jania, junior**

"Before opening night for *South Pacific*, Matt [Domasica] and I thought it would be fun to start kicking in this mechanical robot prop. It was just for fun, and everyone joined in. "

**Lenny Weiss, senior**

**Making Faces** Lindsey Ellingson, junior, applies makeup onto a novice's face. "It was hard meeting the demands of the director as far as expectations with makeup," Lindsey said. "She wanted things to look exactly like how she had it in her head. But I think the end result was perfect and just what she wanted."

**Lend a Hand** Dennison (Andrew Bridgman, junior), the cast of *Rehearsal for Murder* uses wild gestures to catch the attention of Mr. Santoro (Jim Bochnowski, junior). "At first it was hard to get the timing down so that we'd all stop gesturing at the same time," David Pavkovich, sophomore, said. "But everything worked out, and that scene was able to get some pretty good laughs."

**At Center of Attention** Marcus Lycus (Jim Bochnowski, junior) sings "The House of Marcus Lycus" during *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. "It was cool because it was just something fun that happened in the middle of the show that wasn't serious at all," Jim said. "It gave us a chance to showcase all the girls. And myself."

Drinking a pretty strong, Ashley Troumouliaris, junior, takes center stage with Andrew Bridgman, junior, during *Rehearsal for Murder*. "I enjoyed my part because [my character] Monica was extremely dramatic," Ashley said. "It forced me to push my talents to the limit. It took me a while to get into the character, but in the end I could really relate to her."

After confessing his guilt of murdering the leading character, Phillip Shapiro, sophomore, scowls at the other characters in *Rehearsal for Murder*. "I liked being the bad guy," Phillip said. "Being Monica's murderer was an unexpected and twisted end. People told me that they were surprised that I was the one that did it. They didn't expect that it was me."

# lights up

*(continued from page 32)*

to two and a half hours each day to rehearse every scene numerous times.

"We rehearsed the 'chase scene' four to five times each day to get the timing right," Matt said. "We all decided to get it perfect no matter how long it took. It showed dedication and that each member of the cast cared just as much as another."

Dedication and time made the play successful, according to Matt. During practices the cast worked so hard they started sweating. On short breaks they sprinted for water and returned quickly to start their homework before getting back to rehearsal.

"On opening night we got butterflies in our stomachs, and we didn't know what would happen," Mike Hughes, freshman, said. "The production came out better than we anticipated though. We expected some people to crumble from nervousness, but we all stood our ground."

After singing for over two hours, the cast finished the show. Although Matt lost his breath from the vigorous workout, his "participation in something [he] loved" made it all worthwhile.

Thirty minutes into the opening night performance of *Rehearsal for Murder*, her worst nightmare played out on stage.

"I was in the back of the auditorium, and I had flowers in my lap," junior Molly Hanson, student director, said. "I almost broke some of the stems because I was so scared. I was about to die."

Expecting Genevieve Grdina, sophomore, to come out on stage with a tray of coffee and danishes, Andrew Brigman, junior, started to panic when she didn't appear on cue. He paced across the stage, looked at his watch and stalled.

"I could see her offstage, and when she didn't come out, I thought I forgot to say something," Andrew said. "It didn't last too long, but it was like forever in my head because I was really nervous. I thought it was all going to fall apart right there. I didn't know what to do."

Finally making her appearance with only the pastries, Genevieve used her character's ditzy persona to act as if she forgot the directions to the restaurant. With an excuse to go backstage again to retrieve the lost coffee, Genevieve and Andrew continued on with the show.

During intermission Molly ran backstage, found Genevieve and showered her with praise.

"Genevieve kept telling me how it was all her fault because she didn't check the props," Molly said. "I told her that I didn't care whose fault it was because she saved the show. She was a goddess."

With his arms in the air, the shore patrolman (Andrew Bridgman, junior) dances in the "Thanksgiving Follies" number. "My favorite part of the musical was being able to meet and get to know a lot of people and talk with them backstage," Andrew said. "I also liked opening night and seeing how people reacted to the show."

Lovingly embracing each other, Liat and Lt. Joe Cable (Ashley Troumouliaris, junior, and Lenny Weiss, senior) listen to Bloody Mary (Molly Hanson, junior) sing "Happy Talk" to them. "This was a different role for me," Lenny said. "Normally, I played a comical role, 'the goof ball.' This was nice to show versatility. The abundance of love my character shared was awkward to portray at first; but then as I got into it, everything shaped up as it should've."

During the "Thanksgiving Follies" celebration, Nellie (Sara Dobrinich, junior) announces the next act. Sara liked to use expressive facials to convey her character's lines more effectively. "It sounded cliche, but actions spoke louder than words," Sara said. "Facials brought so much more to the table. They made you want to watch and were more entertaining. What you were saying wasn't complete without expression."

Brandishing a rare boar's tooth bracelet, Luther Billis (Joey Manderino, senior) recounts exotic tales of the distant island Bali Hai. "Sailing the seven seas with the cast of *South Pacific* was a dream come true," Joey said. "With all those fine nurses running around, every rehearsal was like an episode of *Temptation Island*."

# behind the scenes

After adding the orchestra pit, makeup crew and sound booth, all the elements come together for the show

Chris Ondo, sophomore

Ashley Troumouliaris, junior

Emily Bradley, sophomore, and Dan Phillips, junior

Drawn on Bended Knee Emile (Matt Domasica, senior) pleads with Nellie (Sara Dobrinich, junior). "My most memorable moment was at rehearsal the first time I did the dramatic scene with Matt," Sara said. "The room turned dead silent. Matt and I got so into it we started crying. I knew I could never do that again."

Joking around or playing it serious, *South Pacific* cast conveys powerful message

# music of the night

Dragged out from behind the curtain by Nellie (Sara Dobrinich, junior) on opening night, sailor Luther Billis (Joey Manderino, senior) finally revealed himself on stage dressed as a girl.

Clad in a grass skirt, curly blonde wig, coconut bra and knee-high socks, he danced with Sara, who dressed as a sailor, in the number "Honey Bun." As they bowed at the end, Joey's skirt fell down.

"It was completely unexpected," Joey said. "And the audience went crazy laughing. But if it wasn't for the snug micro-mesh shorts I wore underneath, the reaction might been a little different."

Sometimes a planned stunt or prank forced *South Pacific* cast members to stay in character, too. On Wednesday's dress rehearsal, Lenny Weiss, senior, decided to write a humorous note on a sheet of paper he needed to give to Justin Dal Corobbo, junior, during their scene.

"It was a whimsical thing," Lenny said. "It was one of the last rehearsals we had, and I wanted to do something funny. I wanted to make a little goof. We all laughed and couldn't get the rest of the lines out, and we got nasty looks from the directing staff."

During an actual show, Justin pulled his own prank on cast member Jim Bochnowski, junior. Justin decided to pour half a bottle of dish soap from backstage into the coke that Jim drank onstage.

"Jimmy couldn't rinse his mouth out for the rest of the play, and it was hard for me to keep a straight face because he was dying next to me," Justin said.

Aside from the occasional joke, dance or humorous bit, cast members spent time developing their characters for dramatic scenes involving racism and prejudice in the 1940s, according to Mr. Larry Brechner, auditorium director. Sara enjoyed the change from an upbeat musical because the show had dimensions.

"It dealt with deep issues that have plagued mankind over the years, and it involved real acting," Sara said. "That was why I was so excited about this role; there was so much depth."

Cleverly covering up the skirt-falling scene, Joey and Sara acted embarrassed and as if it should've happened. Because Joey liked the mistake so much, he purposely repeated the incident every night by tying his skirt a little too loosely.

# live for the moment

With five bands vying for the top spot, each one adds to the night through special surprises or humorous mishaps

1st: free swim

2nd: supremo agustus center for kids who can't read good

3rd: live wires

Stopping the show for just a moment, senior Gabe Culberg, lead singer for the Supremo Agustus Center for Kids Who Can't Read Good, grasped the microphone. The band asked a special guest to make an appearance and join them in its next song. In a Hawaiian shirt, Mr. Steve Moell, math teacher, strolled onto the stage, grabbed a microphone, and belted out the opening chords to "Down on the Corner."

"We wanted to mix things up," Gabe said. "We didn't want to do the traditional 'play six songs, say thank you, and get off the stage.' [Mr. Moell] preached about how he always wanted to sing in Battle, and we thought it would be fun to include him."

Besides Mr. Moell's guest appearance, surprises filled the whole night, such as when junior Shreyas Joshi, drummer for Free Swim, crashed a cymbal to the ground in the middle of the song "Akimbo."

"I just switched what cymbals I was playing, which wasn't hard because I played on all sorts of drumsets; so it was no problem changing things up when I realized what was going on," Shreyas said.

That ability to improvise helped the band capture first place for the second consecutive year. Another drummer for the band Ridge, Matt Coduti, sophomore, added his personal touch by having his dad airbrush his torso black and paint a skull on his stomach.

"It was Battle," Matt said. "It was just an excuse to get my body painted. People backstage acted either shocked or thought it was so cool. Wouldn't you want to do it?"

From body painting to dropping cymbals, the bands all put on a show. As Mr. Moell continued his guest appearance, the crowd screamed and sang along. The band's "put on a show" attitude helped it capture second place.

**sing a different tune**
In the middle of the song "Down on the Corner," seniors Katie Schlesinger and Gabe Culberg, share the microphone onstage. "The crowd was involved, the music was good, and we had a fabulous time," Gabe said.

**dancing to the beat**
Standing in the audience, Liz Anderson, senior, dances along to the music played by the band Live Wires.

### in the swing of things

With his hair covering his face, Ryan Swing, senior, strums his guitar. "I think we put on a better show that evening," Ryan said. "I was a shy guy, and I was all over the place. The audience was feeding us and giving us vibes partly due to my show."

### toot your horn

Puffing as much air as he can into his trumpet, Robert Schoon, junior, plays with the band Free Swim. For the second year in a row, Free Swim captured the first place title.

### three's a crowd

With homemade t-shirts created the night before, Lauren Treasure, senior, and juniors Molly Hanson and Nancy Bielfeldt sing back-up vocals for the band Live Wires. "The best part for me was dancing and having a good time," Molly said. "We only knew about it three days beforehand."

### playing second fiddle

As a part of the band Free Swim, Stephanie Rangel, junior, jams onstage with the electric violin.

**cheer up**
Poised in front of the crowd, seniors Gina Nuzzo, Aubrey Burdeau, Tony Calabrese, Gabi DeLuna, and Gary Ghezzi clap as Gina hears her name announced as Prom queen.

**picture perfect**
Posing for pictures, seniors Coleen Adley and Keith Partain smile for the camera. "I'd been friends with Keith all through school, so it was really fun to go to Prom," Colleen said.

**swing into action**
Swinging Sarah Dobrinich, junior, at the Homecoming dance, Amanda Shike, junior, shows off her moves.

**food frenzy**
Grabbing a bite to eat, Tim Roy ('02), Lauren Mikler, senior, and Bloomtrail High School senior Matt Thompson take a break. "After shakin' what my Momma gave me, I worked up an appetite," Lauren said. "There was food, I was so there."

# fork out
## the cash

**$386** Total cost of Homecoming. Includes: shirt and tie, dress, pictures, flowers, ticket, pictures, hair, dinner and cameras.

**$471** Total cost of Turnabout. Includes: shirt and tie, dress, shoes, pictures, flowers, ticket, pictures, hair, dinner and cameras.

**$1,035** Total cost of Prom. Includes: tux, dress, shoes, pictures, flowers, ticket, pictures, hair, dinner, cameras, and a weekend at a cottage.

"Everytime a dance came along, I knew I would have to start saving up. Every dance got more and more expensive! I didn't mind paying more as long as I had fun."
Bryan Cheek, senior

**Every dance requires the perfect dress, the right flowers, and, of course, the ticket. Seniors Ashley Velcheck and Brian Cheek share their costs.**

**check it out**
Checking in with Darlene Acosta, attendance secretary, freshmen Jen Conley, Steve Andrews, Brian Joseph and Sarah Steele, wait to get into the Homecoming dance. "I was really excited about my first dance," Jen said. "I just wanted to be with all of my friends and just worry about having a great time."

**talking in circles**
Gathered around her friends, Tiffany Thomas, Christy Gilbert, Art Insurriaga, and Vicki Beliakova, seniors, await their entrance into the Grand March. "Friendship made Prom what it was," Vicky said. "Without my friends, Prom wouldn't have been so adventurous. We bonded more."

**say cheese**
Smiling for the cameras held by sophomores Chetan Chaubul and Greg Gier, Kelly McWilliams, junior, and sophomores Maritza Roque, Paige Popravak, Alex Ruich, and Jessica Arens capture their memories.

**footloose and fancy-free**
With her Prom date Tony Gallagher, junior, Julie Feingold, junior, stares down at her bare feet. During the dance many girls decided to throw off their shoes in order to have more fun on the dance floor without any of the pain of high heels.

# all together now

With weekend activites planned, students gather with their friends to dance the night away

**Crammed into a swarming** crowd of Homecoming couples, Andrea Coulis, freshman, inched toward the front of the line as she waited to have her picture taken. During her first formal dance as a high school student, Andrea spent the majority of her night standing in line.

"While we were waiting, a lot of people were yelling at each other for cutting in line or stealing each others' spots," Andrea said. "It was insane and it gave a lot of freshmen a horrible first impression of what high school dances were like."

Due to the photographer's late arrival, students didn't receive the usual time cards at the beginning of the night that might have structured the evening's photo schedule. Because no one had assigned times, everyone swarmed the Fieldhouse at once.

"Wasting all that time put a lot of people in a bad mood and sort of ruined the rest of their night," Andrea said. "I never would have expected to spend half the night standing around waiting to have my picture taken."

Like hundreds of other couples that night, Andrea and her date chose not to lose their spot in line. They waited an hour and a half before making their way onto the dance floor.

"If I could do it all over again, I wouldn't have even tried standing in line for a picture," Andrea said. "I would have rather had memories of dancing than to have a couple of pictures and to remember waiting in line half the night."

**Keeping an eye on** her date, Don Yamtich, junior, as he went to buy their tickets for the Turnabout dance, Justine Bauer, junior, sat wondering if they would allow him to purchase two single tickets instead of a couple ticket.

"Don figured out that if we bought two single tickets, we would be spending less; and since he was good about saving money, he decided to try it." Justine said. "I was worried because I thought they wouldn't let us buy individual tickets since they knew we were going together."

Many students opted to buy single tickets after discovering that two single tickets cost less. However, some students, like Alex Ruich, sophomore, wished that they could have saved money. With the high costs spent on preparing for dances, a little money saved couldn't hurt, according to Alex.

"Although, you didn't get to [go to a dance] every day," said Alex. "You had to [get] a dress and get your hair and nails done. I felt like a princess."

Not everyone cared about the extra cost. After discovering the price differences, Matt Matz, freshman, didn't mind that

*(continued on page 42)*

# all together now

*(continued from page 41)*

his date Caitlin Ventura, freshman, bought couple tickets despite the fact that they could have saved money.

As the dance neared an end, Justine and Don went to gather their things while the music continued. When the last slow song came on, they dropped their things and returned to the floor one last time. They got their money's worth for an enchanting evening, according to Justine.

**After the DJ announced** the dedication of Green Day's "Good Riddance" to the Senior Class, Aubrey Burdeau, senior, started to cry as the song blared through the speakers. She rushed over to her best friend, Mary Heaney, senior; and the two hugged, remembering the fun times they shared throughout their nine years of friendship.

"I wasn't really sure why I broke down," Aubrey said. "I guess I just started thinking about the future and how pretty soon we wouldn't be together anymore. After being friends for so long, I didn't know what I was going to do without her. I just wanted to enjoy celebrating Prom with my friends."

Many seniors like Aubrey saw Prom as the last opportunity to share a great time with their closest classmates. From comedy clubs to paint-balling sessions, students found creative ways to spend their weekends together.

Following in the footsteps of past seniors, Greg Pottorff, senior, organized a trip to a lodge for a weekend in Bloomington. The trip included a two-night sleepover at a house and three cabins in the woods. Approximately 60 seniors made the four-hour trip to Bloomington after Prom.

"We tried to get as many seniors as possible to go," Aaron Cameron, senior, said. "It would be the last time that all of our friends could all get together for one big party. We wanted to remember the senior unity."

One night after hearing a rustle in the woods, Gary Ghezzi, senior, inspected the scene to discover a huge raccoon intruding upon their area. Hoping to scare it off, he threw a few chairs into the woods without any luck. The animal returned the next night, but this time a group of guys stood armed with furniture to toss over the balcony.

"It was really funny," Aubrey said. "Every morning it seemed like another chair had been thrown into the woods. There were even chairs stuck inside the trees. Obviously, we had to pay for a lot of damage."

When Monday morning rolled around, the seniors left the cottage, promising to go again sometime during the summer before they all went to college. Even though their senior Prom weekend had ended, they'd made friendships with one another that would last a lifetime.

**over the top**
Sitting on the shoulders of Joe Skertich, senior, Steve Skalka, senior, screams to the crowd below as he parades around Villa Cesare's dance floor at Prom. Students tightly packed themselves onto the dance floor to take advantage of the space during one of their last nights together. "It was the last chance to really do something and enjoy yourself with your friends," Steve said.

**rising spirits**
Twirling his date, Prince Kwateng, sophomore, locks hands with Lauren Biel, senior, as they show off their moves on the dance floor. "I loved dancing and Homecoming was the perfect place [to dance]," Prince said.

**lady in red**
Kicking off her shoes and stealing her date's red tie, Monica Monowski, freshman, lets loose on the dance floor at Homecoming. "Homecoming was a fun experience for me my freshman year," Monica said. "It was a good first dance to go to because I didn't feel as much pressure as I would have if I had attended Prom."

**walk of fame**
Preparing for their walk down the "red carpet," juniors Lauren Bugajski and Mike Shideler await the Grand March crowd. "Prom was a great experience for me," Lauren said. "I had a lot of fun with my friends. My date didn't take the event completely seriously, so a lot of the pressure was off to have the perfect time."

**dressed to kill**
With arms stretched out to model the three Charlie's Angels, juniors Erin Mc Guan, Darcie Kozlowski, and Stephanie Rangel pose for their prom pictures in front of the Chicago skyline backdrop at the Grand March.

**at your request**
After pushing her way through the crowd to get to the D.J. table in the Commons, Aubrey Bordeau, senior, yells above the booming music to place a song request during Homecoming. Aubrey found quality music essential to having a good time at any dance with all her friends.

# down
## to the facts

| Homecoming Oct. 12 | | Turnabout Jan. 10 | | Prom April 26 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 225 | Couples | 200 | Couples | 494 | Couples |
| 10 | Singles | 14 | Singles | 7 | Singles |
| $35 | Couple Tickets | $35 | Couple Tickets | $72 | Couple Tickets |
| $18 | Single Tickets | $17 | Single Tickets | $34 | Single Tickets |

*As they gain more privileges, students confront new adult challenges and responsibilities like jobs and jury duty*

# finally tied up

**Opening a letter from** the Lake County Court, Leslie Parker, senior, received the call to serve jury duty. By registering to vote and having a driver's license, Leslie found herself eligible for selection as a jury member.

"I prided myself on being politically active, and jury duty was one of those responsibilities that came with being 18," Leslie said. "Kids always whined about how when you turned 18, you're an adult. You thought you could do what you wanted; however, you still had to do your duty to your country."

By having to pay for everything she bought on her own, Kristen Brazel, junior, faced many financial responsibilities. With her mornings spent delivering papers and many nights working at Applebee's, she aimed to create a budget that could pay for her needs. Kristen saved money by collecting coupons for the groceries she had to buy, and part of the money she earned went towards buying a car. By budgeting her income, Kristen learned the importance of saving money.

"When you knew what money meant, you learned that you shouldn't go to the mall and just waste your money on whatever you wanted, especially when that money could buy your dinner for the night," Kristen said.

The freedom and liability that came with a license served as a big step in growing up for Mike Hawryszkow, sophomore. As long as he realized the importance of safety, Mike's license allowed him to stay out late, according to Mike.

"By driving you learned you had to be cautious with what you did because if you messed up anything, you could end up taking someone's life," Mike said.

While still in high school, Leslie didn't want to fall behind in her studies. She contacted the courthouse and found out that she could postpone serving jury duty and wait until the summer. While falling between the fine lines of childhood and adulthood, students such as Leslie understood that although they considered themselves adults, their priorities, including school, came first.

**courting members**
As a member of the Homecoming court, Kate Hanas, senior, steps out of the car as her escort David Noel, senior, holds the door. "I felt so grown up," Kate said. "I remembered looking out from behind the fence when I was just a little girl."

# the *real* world

Four years in high school can turn a pesky teenager into a mature young adult. Follow these students as they discuss how and when to act their age.

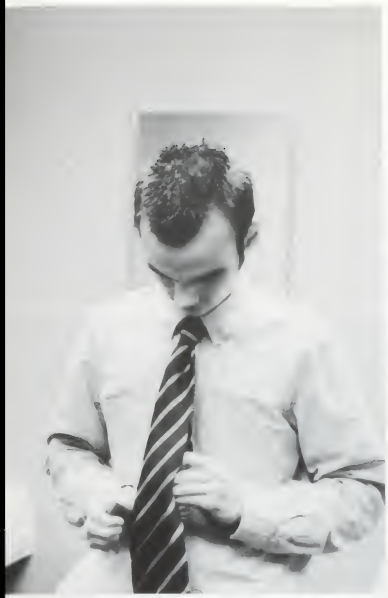
**You know that you've grown up when you...**

"...know right from wrong and don't just follow the crowd and do something because everyone else is."
Jordan Sunderland, freshman

"...become a freshman in college and are away from home for the first time because by then you're practically on your own."
David Johnson, junior

"...start making important decisions and don't rely on your parents for everything."
Erica Koselke sophomore

"...turn 18 because then you are allowed to do more; and finally legally you're considered an adult."
Jacob Boender, senior



**tied straight**
Fixing his tie before his interview for a summer job at the Munster Parks and Recreation Pool, Jason Dillon, junior, checks his appearance. "I wanted to look professional for my interview," Jason said. "I hoped that by dressing up a little I could make a good first impression."

**cash withdrawal**
Finding himself low on money, Mericko Repac, freshman, withdraws some needed cash from his bank account at Bank of Calumet. "It was nice knowing that with an account I could get cash whenever I was in need of it," Mericko said.

**nose dive**
Jumping into the pool feet first, Molly Hansen, junior, practices scuba diving. Project Bio students spent their Spring Break in Florida and learned to prepare meals, cook for themselves and set up the tents.

**speak out**
Taking a stand against the war in Iraq, Katie Schlesinger, senior, voices her opinon during an open forum in the Fieldhouse. "I think it showed I was more mature because I cared about the world and not just what was going on in high school," Katie said. "I got a lot of criticism for taking a stand, and it also took maturity to deal with that."

# all over but the shouting

As the Class of 2003 graduates, seniors recall past and as they look toward the future at June 8 commencement ceremony

Just minutes before the ceremony started, co-valedictorian Steve Coulis, senior, paced back and forth inside S158, silently rehearsing the speech he had written a few weeks before. Visualizing the eventual crowd of 314 fellow graduates, Steve prepared to deliver his two-and-a-half minute speech.

"I made sure to have a common theme to share with everyone," Steve said. "It was to keep things in perspective and to always remember what's important. It was something that I personally believed in and practiced while in high school."

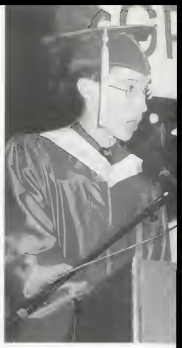
As Steve offered his advice for the future, co-valedictorian Chris Carlos, senior, used his speech to encourage his classmates to recall the past. Ranging from the athletic highlights to the academic achievements, Chris recapped the memorable moments that shaped the seniors' past four years.

"With the war in Iraq, shootings at Columbine, and the Sept. 11 attacks, our class experienced some pretty horrific moments in history," Chris said. "But no matter how moving these events were, they shouldn't have been our lasting memories of our four years at Munster High. The everyday, happy experiences we had should have been the sights and sounds we recalled from our high school experience."

With 2,000 friends and relatives crowding the stands, graduates received their diplomas in front their closest family members. For Janushi Dalal, senior, the graduation ceremony marked a special chance for all her relatives to come together.

"[My family] didn't really have time to come to all that many events of mine in high school," Janushi said. "So I was very fortunate and happy that my family, especially my grandmother and granfather, were all here to see me on this special day."

After the 90-minute ceremony ended, Steve shook the hands of administrators and class-mates who thanked and congratulated him on his "carpe diem" message. After swapping his gold hood for his diploma, Steve joined the rest of the graduates in celebrating the last function as the Class of 2003.



name calling
Carefully pacing the announcement of each graduate's name, Senior Class president Robbie Collins, and vice president Peach Roman-Lagunas, wait for the photographer's flash before reading off the next name. "There was a little pressure because we had to make sure we got all the names right," Robbie said. "I wasn't nervous, though. It was a big deal because every family wanted their graduate to have a moment of glory on stage."

final reward
Peeking at senior Jessica Kovach's diploma, senior Anna Kretz waits to return her silver stole before she could receive hers. "I thought it was a good idea," Anna said. "They probably learned over the years that they wouldn't get the stoles back unless they held something valuable of ours, and the diploma was definitely something we wanted to have."

swan song
Standing in front of the microphone, Caitlin Hawryszkow, senior, belts her solo to "O Sifuni Mungu," a song that the Concert Choir chose to sing at the graduation ceremony. "We chose it because it was a song that meant a lot to the seniors. We originally sang it our sophomore year. It really described our class because it had a really easy tempo and laid back feel."

turning heads
After the presentation of the Class of 2003, seniors Joey Mandernino, Katie Landowski, Connie Kuo, Casey Kolderup, and Payal Keshvani change their tassels from right to left. "My mom gave me a huge grin as I changed my tassel to the left side," Payal said. "She had her camera all ready to take pictures. Seeing her made it all worthwhile."

changing hands
Shaking hands with principal Steven Tripenfeldas, Ryan Miller senior receives his diploma.

white collar women
In the cafeteria, Leah Merkell, senior, waits for Caitlin Muir, senior, to fix her collar. "Before the ceremony my collar kept on falling off and sticking to my hair," Leah said. "But during the ceremony, I couldn't think about anything else except how unbelievable it was that we were graduating."

# words to live by

**Drawing from lessons learned in high school or wordly affairs, valedictorians and fellow classmates use past experiences to give advice for future endeavors**

words of wisdom
At the podium, co-valedictorians Chris Carlos and Steve Coulis, seniors, deliver their speeches. "When I first got up there, I got really nervous," Steve said. "But when I started, I realized that it wasn't that bad."

## What lesson learned in high school will you take to college?

"Don't use printer excuses anymore for disguising your laziness. It'll always come back to bite you."

*Zach Holobowski, senior*

"Never take any one aspect in life too seriously. There's so much out there to experience. It's better not to dwell on the petty details but instead focus on the bigger picture."

*Mike Stoffregen, senior*

"To always give everything a try. The more things you do, the more you realize just how much you use the things you picked up along the way. Even though I complained about all the things I did in high school, looking back, I didn't regret a thing."

*Allison Crary, senior*

**Coleen M. Adley:** Cheerleading 9-11; French Club 9-12 (vice pres. 12); Student Govt. 11-12; SADD 11-12 (pres. 12); Ensembles 10-12
**Mary Albertson**
**Renee Albrecht-Mallinger:** Band 9-12; Drama 9-12; NHS 11-12; Amnesty Int. 11; Ensembles 10-12; Speech/Debate 9-10
**Daniel Aaron Alspach:** German Club 9-10; Ping Pong 11-12; Basketball 9-10
**Vanessa Alvarado:** French Club 9-12

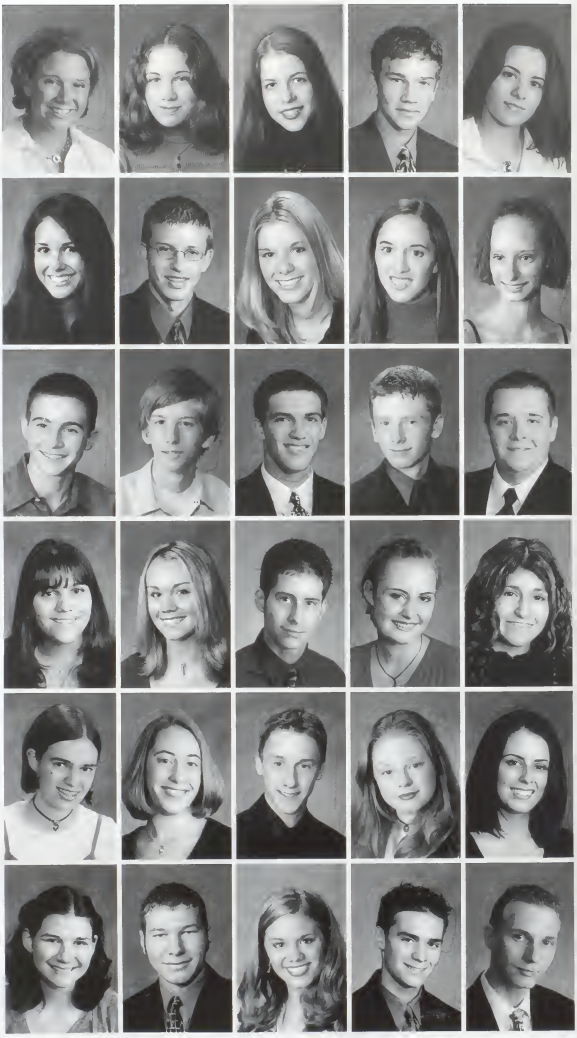
**Kelly Amaloo**
**Victor William Ancich:** Baseball 9-12; German Club 11
**Liz Anderson:** Tennis 9-11; French Club 9-12
**Renee Anderson:** Dance Team 10-11; SADD 9-10; Spanish Club 9; Project X 9-10, 12
**Stephanie Ansbro**

**Jovica Balac:** Speech/Debate 9-10; Academic Team 10-12; German Club 9-12
**Greg Bales:** Student Govt. 9; Soccer 9-10
**Rick Balkam:** Baseball 9-12; Basketball 9-10
**Matthew Banach:** Golf 10-12; Swimming 10-11; CEC 11-12
**Thomas L. Barnes:** Football 9; Track 9-12; Ping Pong 12

**Branka Bastaic:** Project X 11-12; French Club 11-12; Ping Pong 11
**Victoria Beliakova:** Tennis 9-10
**Bill Beneventi:** Football 9
**Lauren Renee Biel:** Spanish Club 9; Art Club 11; Amnesty Int. 12; Softball 9-11
**Sophia Blakeley:** Soccer 9-10; Tennis 10; Art Club 9; Ensembles 12; Academic Team 12

**Stephanie Nichole Rose Bobeck:** French Club 9-11; Aquarium 11
**Melissa Boeckman:** Spanish Club 9-10; French Club 9; Project X 10-12; SADD 10-11; NHS 11-12; Band 9-12
**Jacob Boender**
**Anna Borgo:** Art Club 9-12 (vice pres. 11, pres. 12); Drama 9-11; Ensembles 10-12; NHS 11-12
**Diana Bozovic:** Track 9-11; ASL 11; DECA 12

**Dawn Marie Broelmann:** Basketball 9; SADD 9
**Nathan Burchfield:** Basketball 9-12; Tennis 9-10
**Aubrey Burdeau**
**Jason Byttow:** German Club 9-11; Track
**David Caco**



**Tony Calabrese:** Baseball 9-10; Football 9-12 (All Conference 11-12, All State 12)
**Aaron Cameron:** Wrestling 9-10; Baseball 9-12 (capt. 12)

**Lydia A. Carle:** Soccer 9-12; French Club 9-12; Softball 9; Project X 9-10; SADD 11; Amnesty Int. 12
**Christopher A. Carlos:** Co-Valedictorian; *Paragon* 11-12 (clubs ed./sports ed. 11, ed.-in-chief 12); Speech/Debate 9-12 (sec. 11, vice pres. 12); National Merit Finalist; Tennis 9-11; CEC 11 (treas.); Musical 9-12; Drama 11; Thespian 11-12; NHS 11-12; Principal's Award for Excellence 10; IU Honors 12; Quill and Scroll 11-12; NFL 9-12; Ping Pong 11-12

**Korina Chapman:** Band 9-11; Swimming 11; ASL 12
**Aaron H. Cheek:** Soccer 9-12; Ping Pong 12

**Bryan Hunter Cheek:** Soccer 9-12; Ping Pong 12
**Alex Cheng:** Football 9; Cross Country 10-12 (Academic All-State 12); Track 9-12; Amnesty Int. 11-12 (pres. 12); Ping Pong 11-12; Spanish Club 10-11; African Drum 12; NHS 11-12; *Crier* (news ed. 11); Project X 10-12; Band 9; Quill and Scroll 11

**Natalie Joy Clippert:** Basketball 9; Project X 9-12; Ensembles 10-12; Musical 10-12; NHS 11-12; French Club 10-12
**Marica Coduti:** Dance Team 9-11; French Club 10-12; DECA 10; NHS 11-12

**Daniel D. Cohen:** Spanish Club 10; Musical 9-10; Tennis 11; DECA 12
**Robbie Collins:** CEC 9-12 (vice pres. 10, pres. 11-12); NHS 11-12 (pres. 12); Ping Pong 11-12; IU Honors 12; Band 9-12; Track 9-12; Cross Country 11-12; Jazz Band 9-12; Soccer 9-10; Academic Team 10-12; Spanish Club 9, 11-12

## childish acts

**With multiple tasks to finish on a daily basis, seniors look at the lighter side of life by acting silly**

"I did a lot of things that were very childish, like talking to my car. It was like how I treated my toys when I was young. My car Johanna came to life.

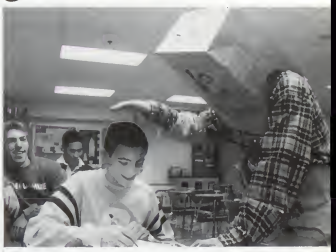
"Sometimes I gave words of encouragement or hatred when it wasn't working. There were times when I drove and gave a running commentary of what I was doing, like talking to a passenger when you got lost. I even responded to the radio.

"Nobody was there to hear me; and if someone were, I'd look stupid. But because no one was there, I stopped caring.

"My family had gotten to know Johanna pretty well. They had sort of accepted the fact that some people had pets and that my pet was Johanna."

*Renee Albrecht-Mallinger, senior*

## bag of tricks



**mixed bag**
Dressed as last-minute Halloween hero "Bagman," Nick Thaera, senior, helps Jovica Balac, senior, in Chemistry. "The bag was better than a book cover," Nick said. "I was inspired by Fat Albert's friend who wore a bag over his head."

**square dance**
Taking a break from the JEA National Journalism Convention, seniors Leslie Parker and Chris Carlos dance around on the John F. Kennedy Memorial in Dallas.

**Steven N. Coulis:** Co-Valedictorian; Track 9-10; French Club 9-12 (pres. 12); German Club 10-12; NHS 11-12; Amnesty Int. 12; Ping Pong 11-12
**Diana May Cox:** French Club 10-12; Swimming 10; Speech 9; Band 9-12; Color Guard 9-12 (capt. 11-12); Pep Band 9-12
**Douglas Coyle:** Academic Team 11-12; Ensembles 11-12; Musical 11-12; Ping Pong 12
**Megan E. Coyne:** Basketball 9; Spanish Club 9; Ensembles 11; Aquarium 11; ASL 12 (vice pres.)
**Allison Laura Crary:** Speech/Debate 9-12; Project X 9-12; Drama 11-12; Thespian 11-12; NHS 11-12; Hoosier Girls State 11; Art Club 9-10

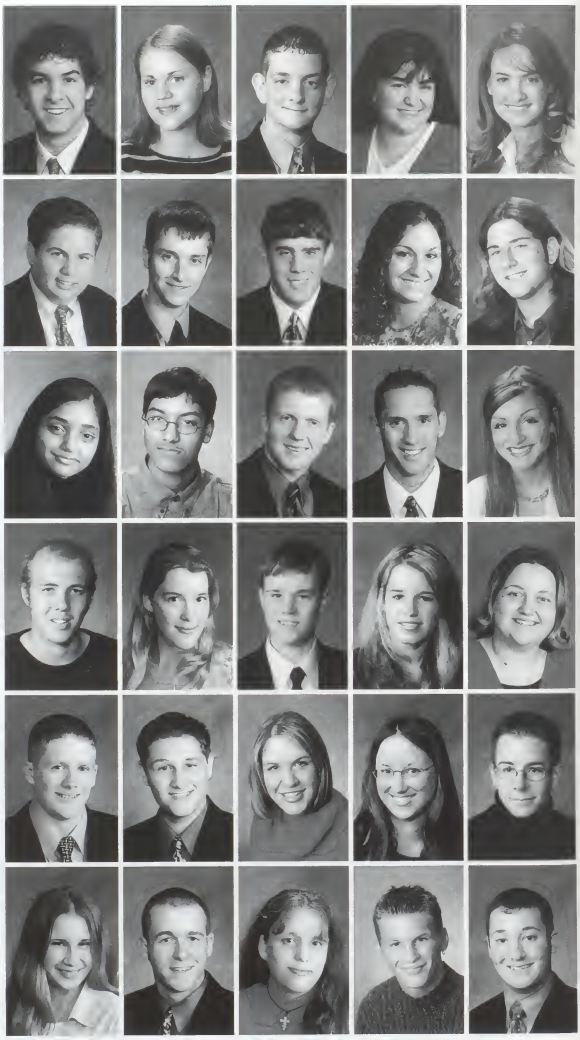
**Theodore J. Creagh:** German Club 9-11; Tennis 11; Pub photographer 10-11; CEC 9
**Terence Alexander Crouch:** Ping Pong 11-12; Track 11; German Club 9
**James Cuban:** Football 9-12
**Laura Cuevas:** Volleyball 9-10; Track 9; Project X 12; Spanish Club 11
**Gabriel Jacob Culberg:** Tennis 9-12 (capt. 12); Musical 9-10; Speech/Debate 9; Student Govt. 9-12; NHS 11-12

**Janushi Dalal:** Salutatorian; NHS 11-12; SADD 9-12 (treas. 11-12); Speech/Debate 9-11; Tennis 9-11; Ping Pong 11-12; National Merit Commended
**Arnab Dasgupta:** Ping Pong 11-12; French Club 11; Art Club 11
**Timothy E. Daugherty:** Basketball 9; Football 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 12
**Adam Del Rio:** Football 9-12; Baseball 9-12; Basketball 9-12
**Gabrielle Marie DeLuna:** Volleyball 9; Track 9; German Club 11-12; Ensembles 10; Project X 10

**Keith A. DeMars:** Swimming 9-12
**Lisa Lynn Demkowicz:** Softball 9; Spanish Club 9; Auditorium Staff 9-12; ASL 11-12; Art Club 12
**Michael Depa:** Project X 9-12; Debate 11
**Amie M. DeRolf**
**Melissa S. Diekelmann:** Band 9-12; Pep Band 9-12; SADD 10-12 (pres. 11); NHS 11-12; Orchestra 11

**Andy Doesburg:** Wrestling 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 9-10; Football 9
**Matthew J. Domasica:** Drama 9-12 (pres. 12); Musical 9-12; Ensembles 9-12; Student Govt. 11; Speech/Debate 9-10; Auditorium Staff 9-12
**Kimberly Drapac**
**Natalie Dukich:** Spanish Club 9
**Shaun Dunn:** Golf 9-12

**Kristine Duray:** Track 9-12; Drama 9-10; Speech 10-12; Spanish Club 9-10; NHS 11
**Tom Dwars:** Tennis 9-12; DECA 11-12
**Esther Economou:** German Club 9, 11-12; Academic Team 12; Ping Pong 12; Drama 10-11; Ensembles 11-12
**Jeff Edens:** Football 9; Baseball 10
**David A. Ellis:** Student Govt. 9, 12; CEC 10-11; Spanish Club 9-10; Speech/Debate 9-12 (pres. 12); NHS 11-12



**Steven R. Fandl:** Football 9-12

**Elizabeth Anne Fattore:** Speech/Debate 9; Spanish Club 9-10; Project X 10; ASL 12

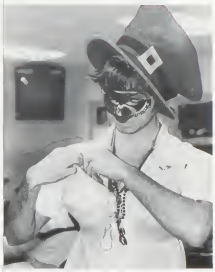
**Alexander C. Feldman:** Student Govt. 9; CEC 10; SADD 12; Ping Pong 12; Musical 9-10

**Ivan Fitzgerald:** Football 9-10

**Stacy C. Frank:** Band 9-12; DECA 12

**Sara E. Frigo:** SADD 9-10; German Club 11-12

## childish acts



**bosom buddies**
With balls of recycled paper, Mike Stoffregen, senior, stuffs a lime green bra. On top of his strands of beads, a plastic mask, and a leprechaun top hat, Mike sported the bra to add to his costume for Mardis Gras. "When childish impulses popped into my head, it was very difficult to pass it up," Mike said. "With the support of amused classmates and a 44-DD bra, the one thing I had learned is never to take myself too seriously."

**rub off**
Experimenting with static electricity, Jillian Hmurovic, senior, rubs a balloon on senior Casey Kolderup's head during math class on Homecoming day. "In school, it was stressful, and you found ways to amuse yourself and others," Jillian said.

**After three years of homework, lectures and tests, seniors decide to forget about age-appropriate behavior and have a good time**

Equipped with duct tape, police caution tape, and manpower, science teacher Mr. Bruce Curme's AP Physics Class attacked science teacher Mr. Jeff Graves's classroom. After using an assembly line to tear up pieces of the tape, seniors Doug Coyle and Matt Lewis led the class to Mr. Graves's room to block off the entryway by taping his door shut with over 13 long strips of caution tape.

"Most of us had had Graves for at least one year, and we figured it was time to pay him back for his gratuitous use of the word 'cretin' in reference to us," Doug said. "At first we just slipped his attendance sheets or threatening notes under his door; but one day we decided to go hog-wild and post caution tape across his doorway. Of course we felt guilty afterwards, and most of us trekked down to his room and removed the caution tape."

# acting their age

**Jeffrey Edward Furticella:** Soccer 9-11; Track 9-10; *Paragon* 11-12 (head photographer 11-12); Quill and Scroll 11-12
**Ashley Marie Gajda:** Spanish Club 9-12; Drama 9; Ping Pong 12; Art Club 9-12; ASL 11-12
**Steven Garcia**: Baseball 10; Tennis 10-11; Ping Pong 11
**Nicole Marie Gauthier:** Softball 9; Basketball 9-10; Volleyball 9-11
**Katie Ann Gavin**

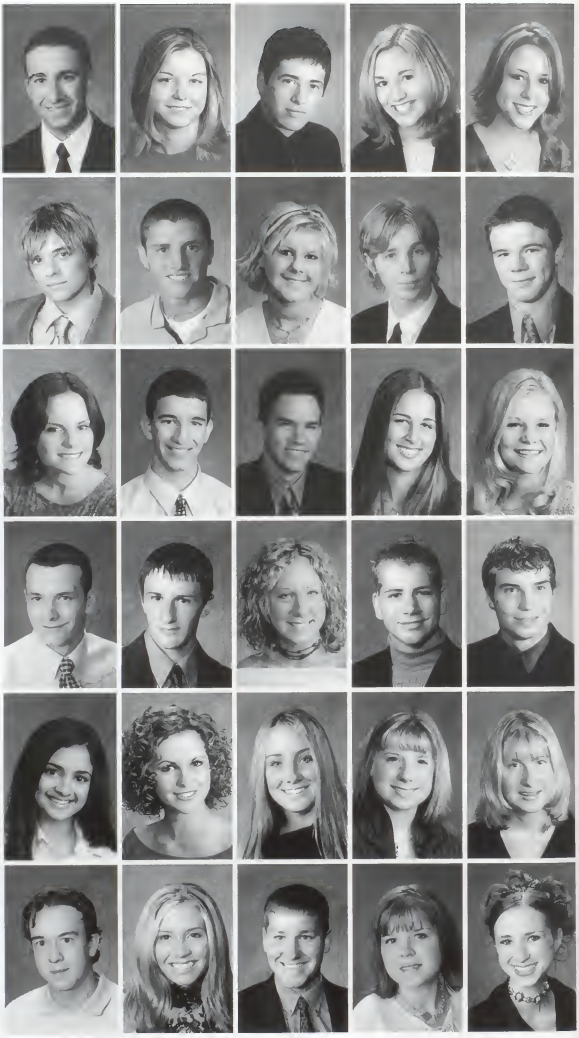
**Gary Raymond Ghezzi:** Golf 9-10; Ping Pong 11-12; Tennis 11; Track 12
**Nick Giannakis:** Basketball 12; Soccer 12
**Christie Michelle Gilbert:** Dance Team 9-11
**Andrew Michael Given**
**Justin W. Glasen:** Football 9; Wrestling 11

**Kristen J. Gleason:** DECA 9; Orchestra 9-11; Camarata 10, 12; Ensembles 12
**Joe Gogolak:** DECA 12
**Jimmy Gonzales:** Football 9-10; Baseball 10; Ping Pong 12; DECA 12
**Celia Marie Gonzalez:** Spanish Club 9; Tennis 9-12 (co-capt. 12)
**Melissa Gorman**

**Matthew Gornal**
**Corey Ryan Greenya:** Soccer 9-12; Wrestling 9-12 (capt. 12); NHS 11-12; German Club 10
**Nicole Marie Greger:** Basketball 9; DECA 9-10; Project X 11; SADD 11-12; Ping Pong 12
**Austin J. Grow:** Football 9-10; Wrestling 10; Ping Pong 12;
**Justin M. Gulotta:** Football 9; Soccer 9-12

**Sonal Gupta:** Soccer 9; Speech 9; SADD 9-12; Project X 9-12; French Club 11; DECA 11-12; NHS 11-12; Spanish Club 9-12 (sec. 12); Ping Pong 11
**Lauren Hamblin:** Dance Team 9-12; CEC 9-12; Spanish Club 9-11; SADD 11 (sec.); Project X 12; NHS 11-12; Musical 11; Principal's Award for Excellence 11
**Kate Hanas:** DECA 10-12; Spanish Club 9; Ping Pong 11-12; Homecoming Court 12
**Elaine E. Hansen**
**Emily Hansen:** DECA 10

**Christoffer Hansson:** Golf 12
**Meg Harker:** DECA 10
**Jeffrey Lynn Harris:** Basketball 9-10; Soccer 10-12; NHS 11-12; Ping Pong 11-12
**Natalie Harris**
**Alyssa Hathaway:** CEC 9-10; Dance Team 9-11; Track 9-10; Art Club 10-12 (treas. 11, vice pres. 12) Project X 11-12; NHS 11-12



**Valerie Hauter:** Basketball 9; Golf 10
**Caitlin Hawryszkow:** Ensembles 9-12; NHS 11-12; French Club 9-10; Speech 10-11; Drama 9-12

**Amy Elizabeth Hayes:** Cheerleading 9-12 (capt. 9,11-12); CEC 10,12; Student Govt. 11; NHS 11-12 (sec. 12); SADD 12; Homecoming Queen 12
**Mary Heaney:** Softball 9-12; Spanish Club 9-12; German Club 11-12; Project X 10-12; SADD 12; CEC 9

**Michael Joseph Helfen:** Football 9-12 (All Conference 11-12); Baseball 9-10; Basketball 9; NHS 11-12; CEC 11
**Shane Hendron:** Football 9-10; German Club 10-11; Track 9-10; Wrestling 10-12

**Andrew Heneghan**
**Chris Herr:** Football 9-12 (co-capt. 12); Wrestling 9-12 (co-capt. 12); Track 9-10

**Beth Herrin:** Track 9-11; NHS 11-12; French Club 9-12; Drama 9-11; Project X 10-12; Art Club 9-11; Musical 10
**Megan Higgins**

**Jillian Hmurovic**: Dance Team 9-11; CEC 11-12; Ensembles 11-12; Spanish Club 9-12; SADD 10,12; French Club 12; Project X 10-11; NHS 12
**Emily Hoban**: Tennis 9-12; Drama 9; Spanish Club 12

## childish acts

**Even as the oldest students in the school, seniors relive the past to remember their childhood days of fun**

Babysitting 30 screaming nine-year-olds would drive most teenagers to the brink of insanity. But as a daycare assistant, Sara Frigo, senior, witnessed a daily flashback to elementary school days of carefree fun.

Spotting several dolls strewn across the floor, Sara remembered a time when she would play with her 10 Barbies.

"I had the cars, the wedding set and the pool," Sara said. "There wasn't enough time to play like a kid in high school."

However, even as a senior, Sara still found time to relive her childish passions. When one girl showcased her new pageant Barbie, Sara instantly recalled her childhood when Barbie ruled the playground.

## memory lane

**new and old**
During the Christmas holiday, Lisa Rietmann, senior, hangs a new ornament. "When my sister and I were young, my mom bought us ornaments from craft shows," Lisa said. "My sister and I bought new ornaments each year to help us remember years past."

**senior moment**
Alongside her parents during Senior Night, Aubrey Burdeau, senior, reflects on her seven years on the Cheerleading squad. "I just remember looking out into the crowd and thinking about how fast it all went by," Aubrey said.

**Robert Hoffman**
**Tracey Lynn Hoffmann**
**Jim Hofstra**
**Tony Hofstra:** Baseball 10
**Ian K. Holloway:** NHS 11-12; Academic Team 9-12; Spanish Club 9; German Club 12; Ping Pong 11-12

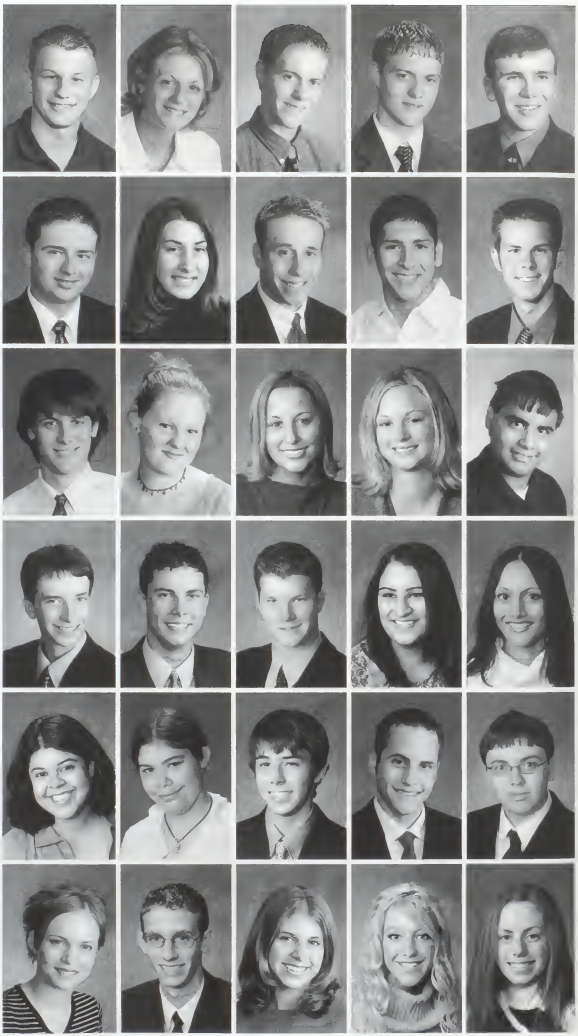
**Zachary J. Holobowski:** NHS 11-12; French Club 9-12; Project X 9-12; Ping Pong 11-12
**Jennifer N. Hostetter:** Volleyball 9-10; Basketball 9-12 (capt. 12); Project X 12; ASL 12
**Randall Hoyle:** Wrestling 9-10; Football 9; Track 9-10; CEC 11-12 (co-treas. 12); DECA 11-12
**Art Insurriaga:** Soccer 9-12; Wrestling 9,11; Spanish Club 9-10
**John Jamicich:** Baseball 9; Basketball 9-12 (capt. 12); NHS 11-12

**Andrew Jayjack:** Football 9; Basketball 9
**Amber Jernigan:** Principal's Award for Excellence 11; CEC 12; Project X 10-12; SADD 11; Ensembles 11-12; DECA 11-12; Spanish Club 12; Aquarium 12
**Lauren Jones:** CEC 9; Dance Team 9-11; Softball 9-10; German Club 12
**Tamara Jones:** Volleyball 9; Basketball 9; Softball 9-12; Ping Pong 11; Spanish Club 11; Project X 11-12
**Darshak Jayesh Joshi:** Spanish Club 9-12; German Club 12; Project X 10-12; Aquarium 12; Wrestling manager 12

**Jason Jozwiak:** Art Club 11; *Crier* 9-12 (cartoonist)
**Jimmy J. Kaczka Jr.:** Football 9; Golf 10-12
**Michael L. Kalina:** NHS 11-12; Baseball 9-12 (capt. 12); Football 9-11; Basketball 9-10; DECA 11
**Nidhi Kansal:** SADD 9-12; French Club 9-12; Project X 10-12; Tennis 9-11; German Club 11; Spanish Club 11; PAT 11-12; NHS 11-12
**Puja Kathrotiya:** Spanish Club 9-11; French Club 12; Couture 12 (vice pres.); German Club 12; Project X 11; Speech 11-12; Track 10-12; DECA 11; NHS 11-12; Academic Team 11

**Payal Keshvani:** *Paragon* 11-12 (student life ed. 11; design ed. 12); Speech/Debate 9-12; NHS 11-12 (treas. 12); IU Honors 12; Quill and Scroll 11-12; NFL 9-12; Project X 9-12; Spanish Club 10-12; Amnesty Int.11; SADD 10-11; PAT 10-12
**Rachel Kevin:** Drama 9-12; Auditorium Staff 9-12; French Club 11-12; German Club 11-12; Academic Team 10-12; NHS 11-12;
**Joshua D. Kmiec:** Spanish Club 10; Art Club 10
**Matthew Kocel**
**Casey Kolderup:** Orchestra 9-12 (treas. 12); Academic Team 11; Ping Pong 11-12; National Merit Semifinalist

**Jamie Lynn Korey:** Band 9; Orchestra 10; Soccer 9-10; German Club 9-12; Art Club 9; Spanish Club 9-12; Project X 12; Aquarium 12
**Philip Koscielski:** Baseball 9-10; Football 9; German Club 9-11
**Jessica Ann Kovach:** Cheerleading 9-12 (capt. 11-12); Art Club 10-11; Project X 10-12; ASL 11-12
**Kara Kozlowski:** Volleyball 9; Project X 9-12; Student Govt. 10; Spanish Club 9-10; Drama 9; CEC 11-12 (sec. 12); SADD 12
**Anna Marie Kretz:** Volleyball 9; Track 9-10; NHS 9-12; Spanish Club 9-12



**Laura Krolak**

**Peter Kubacki:** French Club 9, 11-12

**Phillip Kubacki**

**Connie Y. Kuo:** Ping Pong 11-12; *Crier* 11-12 (feature ed. 11, copy ed. 12); Student Govt. 12 (vice pres. 12); Amnesty Int. 11-12; Academic Team 12; Spanish Club 9-11; NHS 11-12; Quill and Scroll 11-12; Tennis 9-10; Speech/Debate 9-11; Orchestra 9-12

**Jonathan Kutas:** Tennis 9-11; DECA 10-12 (treas. 11, pres. 12); German Club 9-12; Ping Pong 11; Spanish Club 9-10; CEC 9-10; Speech/Debate 9-10; NHS 11-12; Orchestra 9-11; Jazz Band 9

**Kyle Kutlik**



# testing**trinkets**

**Seniors pull out their good luck charms during tests to succeed without hours of long studying**

- lucky light up sparkle pen
  *Emily Yttri*
- Sponge Bob Square Pants eraser for math
  *Jenny Nelson*
- bagel and drink from breakfast bar
  *Beth Herrin*

**bandana bonanza**
Filing through a stack of bandanas, Mary Leitelt, senior, prepares to pass them out to the team. "It was a 'Red Dawg' soccer tradition to give these to the younger players," Mary said. "It was special because I passed them out, not received them."

**Superstitious rituals and lucky objects aid seniors in completing difficult assignments**

Racing out of her house at 7:35 a.m., Kristine Duray, senior, rushed to make it to school in time for the 7:45 a.m. bell. When her alarm clock failed to sound, she woke up 30 minutes late and panicked.

Kristine arrived at school and sat down in her seat seconds before the bell rang, avoiding a tardy and a possible detention. As she settled in, she realized that she forgot her lucky bandana, an item crucial for a successful day at school, according to Kristine.

"Without my bandana, I felt like a part of me was missing," Kristine said. "I left home in such a daze that it just slipped my mind. It became a good luck charm for me. It was just something that I always brought with me."

Kristine called her house to find someone to bring it to school, but no one picked up the phone. She felt disappointment but continued her day of classes without the lucky charm.

"I almost relied on the thing to help me do better on tests, even though it was a superstition," Kristine said. "Although it was just in my head, I was encouraged by it."

# lucky**charms**

**Jennifer S. LaFond**
**Mirjana Lakich:** Volleyball 9-10; Basketball 9; Track 9; Tennis 11-12; French Club 10-12; Project X 10-12 (pres. 12); Spanish Club 10-11; Ping Pong 11; Pub photographer 10-11; NHS 11-12
**Katie Lynn Landowski:** Tennis 9-11; Project X 10-12; SADD 10-12; German Club 10-12; Ping Pong 11; NHS 11-12; Spanish Club 10-12
**Vita Lazauskas:** Band 9-12; Ensembles 9-12; Drama 9-10; Orchestra 12; NHS 11-12; SADD 10; French Club 9-11;
**Megan Leahy:** Band 9-12; Orchestra 11-12

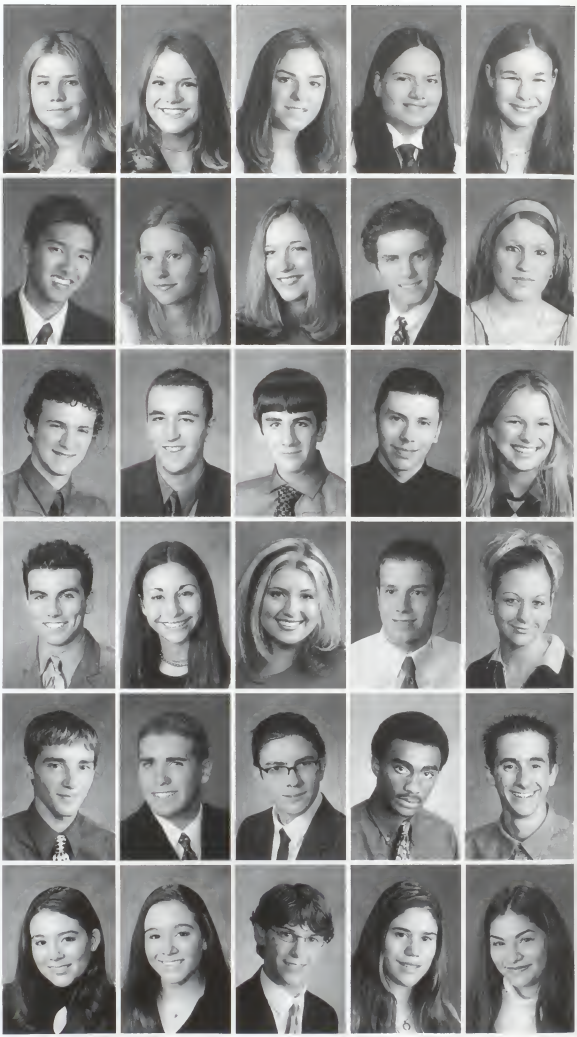
**Mike Lee:** Tennis 9-12; German Club 9-11; DECA 11
**Mary M. Leitelt:** Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12)
**Melissa S. Leslie:** Track 9-10, 12; Poms 10-12; Speech 11
**Joshua Levin:** Speech/Debate 9-10; NHS 11-12; SADD 11-12; Project X 11-12; CEC 9, 12; Football 9; Drama 10; French Club 10-12
**Angelina Lewellyn:** DECA 12

**Matthew Ivan Lewis:** Football 9; Swimming 9-12 (capt. 11-12); Academic Team 11-12; CEC 11-12; NHS 11-12; Pub photographer 11-12 (head photographer 11)
**Alexsandar Lukic:** Art 9; DECA 10-11
**Jeff Luptak:** French Club 9-10
**Nathan Mack**
**Courtney Michele Mambourg:** Volleyball 9; Soccer 10-11; Basketball 9-11; Speech/Debate 9; NHS; Project X; SADD 12; ASL 12 (sec.)

**Joey Manderino:** Student Govt. 9-12 (pres. 12); *Crier* 11-12 (front pg. ed. 11, ed.-in-chief 12); Drama 9-12; Musical 9-12; Thespian 10-12; Tennis 9-11; Speech 9-12; NHS 12; Ensembles 10-11; National Merit Finalist; Principal's Award for Excellence 9; Project X 10; Quill and Scroll 11-12
**Kelly Elizabeth Markovich:** Band 9-12; Project X 10-12; SADD 12; French Club 10-12; Softball 9; ASL 11; Color Guard 9,11; Spanish Club 10; NHS 11-12; Pep Band 9-12
**Brittany Marschak**
**Kyle Martinez:** Baseball 11-12
**Jennifer Maruszczak**

Ben Massie
**Brian Joel Mayer:** DECA 10-12; Ping Pong 11-12
**Michael McCullough**
**Jonathan Meacham:** Band 9-12; Basketball 9-10; Football 11-12; Track 10-12; NHS 11-12; Football 11-12; Track 9-11
**Milan Medakovic:** Spanish Club 9-10; SADD 9

**Raechelle Elaine Medellin:** Speech 9-11; Golf 9-12; Ensembles 11; Spanish Honor Society 11-12; Student Govt. 12; NHS 11-12; Amnesty Int. 12; Spanish Club 10-12 (vice pres. 11, pres. 12)
**Richelle Emilia Medellin:** Speech 9-11; Golf 9-12; Ensembles 11; Spanish Honor Society 11-12; Student Govt. 12; NHS 11-12; Amnesty Int. 12; Spanish Club 10-12 (treas. 11, vice pres. 12)
**Marko Medynsky:** Band 9-12; Ensembles 10-12; Jazz Band 10-12; Pep Band 10-12; Drama 9-12; Art Club 10-12
**Dominique A. Mercier:** Art Club 9-12; ASL 11-12; Amnesty Int. 12; Couture 12; French Club 12
**Leah Merkell:** Basketball 9



**Karol Mielnicki:** Swimming 9-10; African Drum 12

**Lauren Nicole Mikler:** Volleyball 9; French Club 9-12; SADD 11-12; Student Govt. 10,12; CEC 11; NHS 12; Drama 9-10; Amnesty Int. 12; Ping Pong 11-12

**Kelly Miller:** Spanish Club 9; Track 10; French Club 10-11

**Ryan James Miller:** Golf 10-12 (All Conference 10-12); Baseball 9; Speech/ Debate 9-10; Spanish Club 11-12; NHS 11-12; Ping Pong 11-12, Amnesty Int. 12; PAT 12

**Sana Moin:** Art Club 12

**Jessica Montella:** Volleyball 9-10,12; Track 9

# childish acts

## movie**magic**

**Seniors push aside the dramas and indulge in the top ten grossing animated movies:**

1. *The Lion King* *
2. *Shrek*
3. *Monsters, Inc.* *
4. *Toy Story 2* *
5. *Aladdin* *
6. *Toy Story* *
7. *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* *
8. *Ice Age*
9. *Tarzan* *
10. *Beauty and the Beast* *

source: www.the-movie-times.com

* Disney film

**When looking for entertaining hobbies, seniors put adulthood on hold and opt for childlike favorites that appeal to their inner Peter Pan**

Opening up her e-mail, an "Otaku," or Japanese anime fan, received her daily fan fiction, including stories about anime characters.

"'Otaku' basically meant 'geek' in Japanese," Rachel Kevin, senior, said. "Everyone who knew me knew I was an anime freak."

As a hobby, Rachel immersed herself in Japanese culture by watching anime cartoons, drawing fan art, reading and writing fan fiction, and reading Manga, anime comics. While Rachel loved anime's typically complicated plots, she still enjoyed the simpler children's shows.

When anime didn't occupy Rachel's free time and when her brother didn't hog the Playstation 2 system, she played video games. It gave her a chance to think about something other than world affairs, school and stress.

"It wasn't good to be serious all the time," Rachel said. "Every day we were expected to grow up, shape up, ship out and go off to college. And yet at the same time, we were still just teenagers. We had been forced out of our childhood with studying and school, and sometimes you had to step back and see the big picture. There was a whole world out there just waiting for you to explore."

**dancing machine** Hopping on the pads, seniors Casey Kolderup and Nick Thaera groove to a *Dance Dance Revolution* system. "Sometimes it was fun to make a fool of yourself," Casey said.

## child's**play**

**Kelly L. Montella:** DECA 10; ASL 11-12 (pres. 12)
**Dustin Michael Moriarty:** Cross Country 9-12 (Academic All-State 12), Track 9-12; French Club 9-12 (vice pres. 12); *Crier* 11-12; (sports ed. 11, design ed. 12) NHS 11-12; Amnesty Int. 11-12 (treas. 12) Quill and Scroll 11-12; Project X 10-11
**Sarah Moseley**
**Melissa Mota**
**Kristina Anne Mueller:** Cheerleading 9-12; German Club 9-10

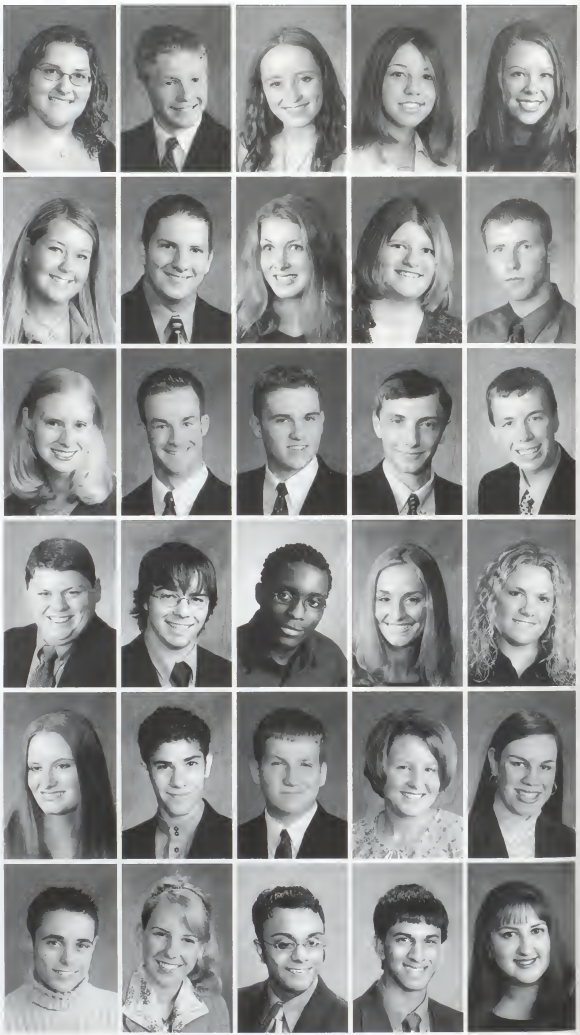
**Caitlin Muir:** DECA 12
**Lee Murphy:** NHS 11-12; Football 9-12; Wrestling 9-10; Track 12
**Lisa D. Murray:** Swimming 9, Soccer 9-12; Band 9-12
**Valerie R. Myszak:** ASL 11-12; Project X 11
**Brett B. Navarro:** Football 9-10; Baseball 9-10

**Jenny Nelson:** Color Guard 9-12; Track 10-11; French Club 9-12; NHS 11-12; Project X 10-12
**Jeffrey D. Newcomb:** Football 9; Wrestling 9-11; Track 9-10, 12; Soccer 10; Cross Country 11-12; German Club 9-10; Student Govt. 9; CEC 10; NHS 11-12
**Derek Newell:** French Club 9-12; Football 9-10, Track 10; DECA 12
**Tom Newman**
**Richard W. Nichols:** German Club 9-12; Drama 12

**Matthew Nierengarten**
**David Kenneth Noel:** Football 9-10; Baseball 9-12
**Maxwell K. Ntiamoah:** Football 9-11; Track 10-12; DECA 11-12 (vice pres. 12); German Club 12; Ping Pong 11-12
**Gina Marie Nuzzo:** Basketball 9; Track 10-12; German Club 12
**Keiley Ann O'Brien:** Swimming 9-10, 12 (capt. 12); Project X 10-12; German Club 9-12 (pres. 12); NHS 11-12

**Shannon O'Keefe:** Softball 9-12; Art Club 11; Project X 12, Drama 9
**Jawad Omery**
**Benjamin T. Oprinovich:** Tennis 9-12; Speech/Debate 9; Spanish Club 9
**Amy Lynn Parker:** Basketball 9-12; Softball 9-12
**Leslie Irene Parker:** Cheerleading 9-12; *Crier* 11-12 (in focus ed. 11, managing ed. 12); Quill and Scroll 11-12; Drama 10-12; Ping Pong 11-12; NHS 11-12; Amnesty Int. 11-12; CEC 9

**Keith Partain:** Project X; SADD 11
**Jillian Pasztor:** French Club 9-11; CEC 10 (pres.)
**Shyam Patel:** Project X 10-12; Spanish Club 10-12; Ping Pong 11-12; SADD 10-12; Amnesty Int. 11-12
**Vatsal Patel:** Spanish Club 9-12 (sec.11, treas. 12); German Club 10-12; Project X 10-12; SADD 10-12; Ping Pong 11-12; Tennis 11; NHS 11-12
**Nicole Pavnick:** DECA 11



**Matthew Peach:** Ping Pong 11-12

**Audra K. Peciulis**

**Lisa Penman**

**Ashley Perez**

**Sarah Elizabeth Pfeifer:** Volleyball 9-12 (capt. 12); German Club 11

**Jim Phelan:** Football 9-12 (co-capt. 12); Basketball 9-12 (co-capt. 12)

# childish acts

**To help their lives run more smoothly, seniors rely on others to aid them in their everyday activities**

With the familiar sound of his dad's voice calling "Jon, let's go," Jon Meacham, senior, hurried to finish the last of his pancake and egg breakfast. As the two walked out the door that morning, Jon thanked his dad for making the meal for him once again.

Jon relied on his dad to make sure that he ate a good breakfast and left the house by 7:25 a.m. each morning. Eating in the morning helped him function more efficiently during the day, according to Jon.

"I liked to eat a good breakfast everyday, and I would have had to wake up earlier to prepare it for myself if my dad didn't do it for me," Jon said. "I could sleep in a little if he made it for me. Plus, I had more energy and was in a better mood if I ate something."

## ready**made**

**bagging it**
Consuming the last of her peanut butter and jelly sandwich, Sonal Gupta, senior, finishes her lunch. "I had my mom make my lunches because I usually didn't have time in the morning to make them myself," Sonal said.

## lifting **a finger**

**Take this quiz to find out whether you rely on others or take care of your chores and responsibilities yourself**

**1.** It's 6:45 a.m. on a weekday morning. You wait until the alarm clock wakes you from your deep sleep.
a. True
b. False

**2.** It's 7:00 p.m. on a Friday, and you realize you have no clean clothes. You kick yourself for not doing your laundry sooner.
a. True
b. False

**3.** As soon as you wake up you start making your bed without hesitation.
a. True
b. False

**4.** Every Friday evening you end up making plans for the night for you and your friends.
a. True
b. False

**Mostly True: Self-reliable**
Responsibilities never present you with any problems but end up as second nature.

**Mostly False: Hand-held**
Facing the real world will bring challenges for you. Relying on others may result in some problems in the future.

**Tim Piatek:** Basketball 9; Tennis 9-12; Golf 9-12; Speech/Debate 9; Ping Pong 11
**Alex J. Pilawski:** Baseball 9-10; Football 9-11; Basketball 9-12; NHS 11-12
**Janet Pleitner:** Spanish Club 9; Band 10-12, Color Guard 10-12; Project X 11
**Jonathan Michael Pleitner:** Track 9,10; NHS 11-12; French Club 10-12; Football 9-12
**Amanda Porta:** Diving 9; Tennis 9-12; DECA 10-12; German Club 12; ASL 12; Ping Pong 12; Art Club 9-11; NHS 11-12; Speech 9-10

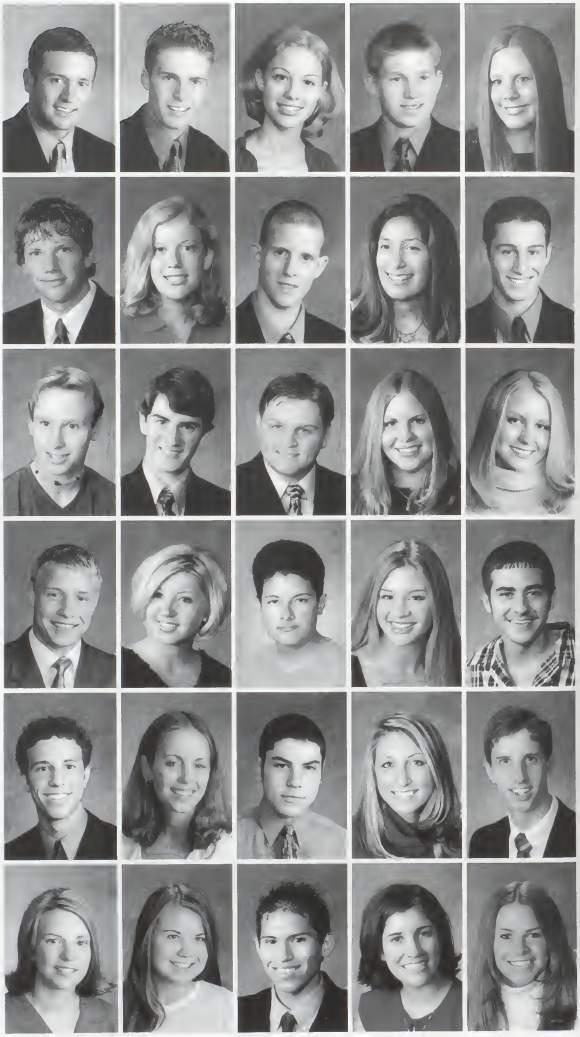
**Gregory W. Pottorff:** Baseball 9; Soccer 9-12 (capt. 12); NHS 12
**Lindsay M. Puterko:** Softball 9; Track 10; Soccer 10,11; Basketball 9-12; ASL
**Paul Raddatz:** Wrestling 11-12 SADD 11-12
**Danielle Ramirez:** Color Guard 9; Spanish Club 9-10
**Joe Ramirez:** Baseball 9,12

**Phil Michael Resler Jr:** Football 9,12; Wrestling 10
**Ryan Reuth**
**Kyle Rice:** Football 9; Tennis 10-11; Ping Pong 11-12; German Club 9-12
**Lisa Rietmann:** Swimming 9-12 (capt. 11-12); Track 9-12; NHS 11-12; CEC 11-12 (treas. 12); Student Govt. 9-10; Volleyball 9; Drama 9-12
**Nicole Rietmann:** Diving 9-10; Spanish Club 9; Amnesty Int. 12

**Ben Rinderer:** Football 9; Wrestling 9; Auditorium Staff 9-10
Ensembles 10; SADD 10-11; NHS 11-12; Project X 10
**Angela Catherine Ritchie:** Cheerleading 9-12 (capt. 9, 11-12); Spanish Club 9; NHS 11-12; Project X 9-10; DECA 10
**Mike Roman:** Band 9-12
**Peach Roman-Lagunas:** Track 9-12; Soccer 9-12; CEC 10-12 (vice pres. 10-12); Ensembles 10; SADD 10-11; NHS 11-12; Project X 10
**David Rosenbalm**

**Adam Rothschild:** Tennis 9-12; Spanish Club 9-10; Speech/Debate 9; Ping Pong 11; NHS 11-12
**Alana Salata:** Volleyball manager 9-12; Basketball manager 9-12; Softball manager 9-12; NHS 11-12
**Chad Samara**
**Ann-Marie Sands**
**Warren Santner:** Basketball 9-12

**Maribeth Lynette Sarnecki:** Track 9-11; Cross Country 10-11; German Club 9-10; Spanish Club 9; ASL 12
**Jennifer Schmelzer**
**Patrick Scully:** Wrestling 9-11; SADD 11-12; Spanish Club 9; Art Club 12
**Gina Marie Selent:** Color Guard 9-12; Band 9-12; SADD 10-12 (vice pres. 11-12); Project X 11-12; Spanish Club 9-10; French Club 11; DECA 12; NHS 11-12; Track 9-11
**Samantha Seligman:** Softball 9-10; CEC 9-10; Ping Pong 11-12



**John Semko**
**Amit Shah:** French Club 9-12; Spanish Club 9-11; German Club 9-11; Project X 9-12; SADD 9-10; Speech 11; Orchestra 9-12

**Neema Shah:** NHS 11-12; Amnesty Int. 11-12; Speech/Debate 10-11; Ping Pong 11; French Club 9-12; Tennis 9-11; SADD 10-12; CEC 9; Project X 9-12
**Jaime Lauren Shapiro:** Speech 9-12 (sec. 12); *Paragon* 11-12 (academics/people/ads ed. 11; copy ed. 12); Drama 9-11; Musical 10-11; National Merit Finalist; NHS 11-12; Project X 10-12; Spanish Club 10-12; SADD 11-12; Hoosier Girls' State 11; Thespian 11-12; Quill and Scroll 11-12; NFL 9-12

**Jessica Sherman:** Track 10; SADD 11; Art Club 12
**Kristen Shofner:** IU Honors 12

**Paul Sikora:** Marching Band 9-12; Pep Band 9-12
**Crystal J. Simpson**

**Jill E. Sinchak:** Basketball 9-12; Tennis 9-12; NHS 11-12; Spanish Club 9
**Liam Singer**

**Samantha Skaggs:** Basketball 9; Softball 9-12
**Steve Skalka:** Football 9-11

## childish acts

## deal with it

After stressful days at school and strenuous hours of late-night work, seniors rank their all-time favorite card games

1. Speed
2. Poker
3. Egyptian Rat Screw
4. Euchre
5. Kings in the Corner

"I liked to play speed with my friends because sometimes we would get really competitive. Being with them made the game more fun."
**-Tony Calabrese, senior**

*97 seniors surveyed*

**laugh out** Getting together to bake brownies, seniors Angie Ritchie, Kelly Miller, and Kathryn Wickland laugh as they engage in their childish pastime. "Kathryn and I have been friends forever, and we always used to bake when we were younger," Angie said.

**Between dealing with long work hours and lots of after school homework, seniors still find time to relax and kick back with their friends**

On a Saturday night, four girls gathered at senior Jenn Zivich's house to practice their original dance routines. Three of the four friends participated in dance classes together as children, and their heavy interest in music carried on throughout high school.

"All of us had always been really big on dancing," Jenn said. "I thought it was fun to relax and be ourselves after a stressful week."

Jenn's friends agreed that the routines allowed them to have an escape from their weekday stresses. After choosing a song, they spent hours choreographing original moves to the music. Kelly Markovich, senior, also enjoyed the fact that the Saturdays allowed her to hold onto her favorite childhood pastime.

"It was something that we had always liked to do," Kelly said. "We weren't afraid to let loose in front of one another, so we always had a really good time with it."

## playdate

**Joe Skertich:** Football 9-12; Ping Pong 11; DECA 12
**Kristi Skrundz**
**Lindsay Smaron:** Volleyball 9-12; Track 9; Spanish Club 9-12; NHS 11-12
**Steven Smith:** Track 9; Football 9-12 (capt. 11-12)
**Jenna Snedden**

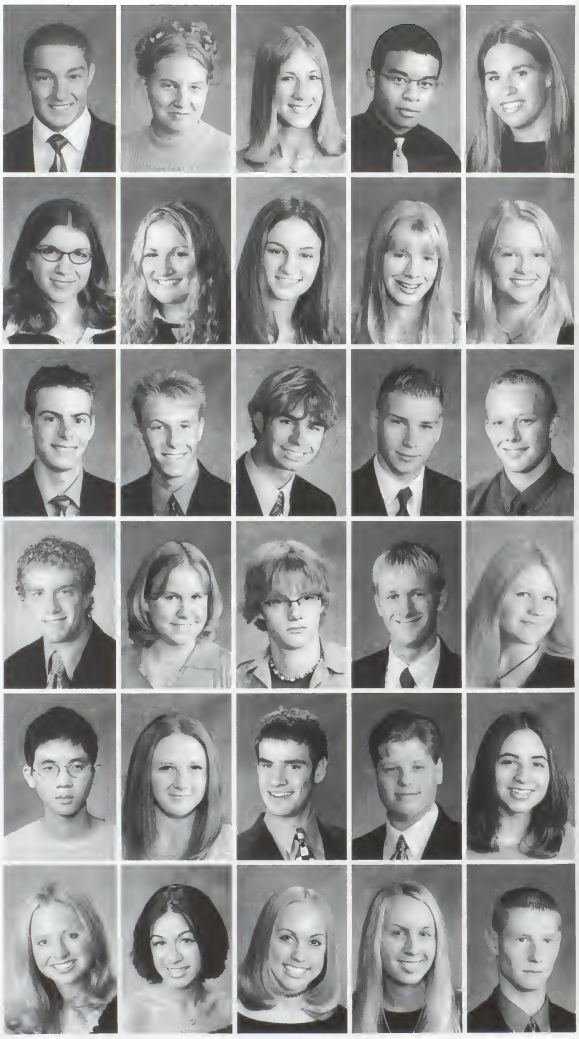
**Laura Somenzi**
**Kristin Mary Sopata**
**Melody Lynn Spasoff**
**Helen Elizabeth Sroka:** Band 9-12; Pep Band 9-12; Orchestra 10-12; French Club 9-10; Color Guard 9
**Madelyne N. Stenger:** Band 9-10; Marching Band 9-11

**Brett Stewart:** Cross Country 9-12 (co-capt. 12); Track 9-12
**Jonathan Paul Stinnett**
**Michael H. Stoffregen:** Soccer 9-10; Track 9-10; French Club 9-12 (sec. 11, pres. 12); Student Govt. 10-12; SADD 11-12; NHS 11-12; Academic Team 11-12; German Club 9-12; Ping Pong 11-12; African Drum 12
**Nicholas Stone:** Tennis 11-12; DECA 12; French Club 9-10, 12
**Benjamin Fair Stork:** Pep Band 9, 11-12; Marching Band 9-12; Concert Band 9-12

**Marc Strick:** Soccer 9-11; Ping Pong 11; ASL 12
**Amanda Marie Studniarz:** Basketball 9; Golf 10-11; DECA 11-12
**Ryan S. Swing**
**Brian E. Szymanski:** Football 10; Track 12; Ping Pong 11-12
**Amanda Christine Taber:** NHS 11-12; Speech/Debate 10; Track 9; SADD 12

**Nicholas Adam Thaera:** Academic Team 9-12; Orchestra 9-10; German Club 11-12; NHS 11-12; SADD 11
**Tiffany Marie Thomas:** DECA 9-10; ASL 11
**Brandon M. Thompson:** Swimming 9-12 (capt. 11-12); Amnesty Int. 12; Academic Team 12
**John Tomazin:** Art Club 9; Spanish Club 9-11; Speech/Debate 9-11; Swimming 10-11; NHS 11-12; Ping Pong 12; Auditorium Staff 12
**Emilia Topete:** Track 9-10; Spanish Club 9; Cross Country 9

**Lauren Treasure:** Soccer 9-10; French Club 9-12; Project X 9; Ensembles 11-12; Musical 10-12
**Simal A. Turan:** Cheerleading 9-10; German Club 9; Track 9-12
**Ashley Ann Velchek:** Softball 9-12; Project X 10-12; SADD 10-12; Spanish Club 10-11; French Club 11-12; Ping Pong 11-12; NHS 11-12; Volleyball 9; Orchestra 9-11
**Stephanie Volkoff:** Softball 9; Spanish Club 9-12; SADD 11-12; Project X 11-12; DECA 11; ASL 12
**Nick Vrabel:** Baseball 9-10; Basketball 9-12; Golf 11; Ping Pong 11; NHS 11; Football 9



**David M. Watson:** CEC 9; Spanish Club 9; Football 9-12; NHS 11-12; *Crier* 11-12 (sports ed.); Quill and Scroll 11-12
**Leonard Scott Weiss:** Speech/Debate 9-12 (treas. 12); Drama 9-12 (vice pres. 11) NHS 11-12; CEC 9; Student Govt. 10-12; Ensembles 10-12; Project X 10; Musical 9-12; Thespian 9-12

**Jason R. White:** Soccer 9-12
**Kathryn Anne Wickland:** Dance Team 9-12; Art Club 10-11; Spanish Club 9-10; DECA 9

**Nikki Williamson:** Drama 9-11; Auditorium Staff 9-11; Soccer 9-10; Thespian 11; Cross Country 9-12 (capt. 12); Track 9-12; NHS 11-12
**Lidiya Yakubovskaya**

**David R. York:** Baseball 10-12
**Lucas J. Yothment**

**Emily Yttri:** Band 9; Soccer 9-11; Spanish Club 11; SADD 12; Project X 12; NHS 11-12
**Shannon Anne Zenos:** NHS 11-12; Spanish Club 9-12; German Club 9-12; Project X 10-12; SADD 11-12, ASL 12

**Jennifer Zivich:** CEC 9; Volleyball 9; French Club 9-12; Band 9-12; Color Guard 9-12 (capt. 9-12); Project X 9-11; SADD 9,10; NHS 11-12; Ensembles 9-12; Pub Photographer 10

# childish acts

## kiddieland

Whether at Meijer or McDonald's, read five childish acts to do when going out

1. Rollerblading down the aisles of Meijer
2. Picking out a Barbie doll at Toys R'US
3. Playing with the happy meal toy from McDonald's
4. Winning 50 tickets from the arcade pinball machine at Plaza Lanes
5. Racing around the track on go-carts at Schererville Golf Center

**fun feast** Gathering at Buffalo Wild Wings in Schererville for an eating contest, Jon Kutas, senior, triumphs over Mr. Steve Moell, math teacher. "It was fun sharing company with friends and seeing who could eat the most," Jon said.

**Tapping deep into their immaturity, seniors perform childish tasks like going mini-golfing in the frigid cold**

On a cold January afternoon, A.J. Grow, senior, and his girlfriend Ashley Cooper, Griffith High School, found themselves out of new things to do. They disregarded their age and went to Munster Junction where they rediscovered their youth, according to A.J.

"It was something you did in grade school," A.J. said. "In high school you were trying to act like an adult, but sometimes you had to remember how immature you still were."

Partaking in a game of mini-golf and racing go-carts, they experienced friendly competition. This set the tone for the day, making them as "giddy" as children, according to A.J.

## winging it

Rachel Abrahms
Fadi Abu-Aita
Suzanna Acosta
Tracey Adomitis
Tiffany Aguilera
Saba Ahmed
Kory Aktay
Leah Alberson

Anthony Alfonsi
Steven Alspach
Dayanna Alvarado
Carlos Alvarez
Brett Anderson
Stephanie Andrade
Steven Andrews
Alonzo Arellano

Christopher Bakker
Stephanie Banach
Angela Banas
Kaitlin Bandura
Lindsey Banka
Natalie Banka
Christine Barnes
Tiffany Barth

Brian Bartniczak
Milka Bastaic
Mark Bates
Emily Beezhold
Margaret Behrens
Julie Bembenista
Nicholas Benedek
Daniel Berry

Christia Bieda
Joanna Biestek
Andrew Bilse
Timothy Bishop
Danielle Blair
Gabriel Blakeley
Ryan Blanchard
Mark Boeckman

Matthew Bohney
Kyle Bookwood
Daniel Borgo
Ashley Boyan
Kimberly Brandon
Joseph Bridgman
Katherine Brown
Sara Brown

Kurtis Bruhn
Kayla Bryant
Daniel Budilovsky
Kirstin Bularzik
Nicholas Burchfield
Ryan Burke
Thomas Campbell
Allyce Carlson

Jason Carr
Ashley Carrasco
Armando Casas
Anne Chambers
Rohini Chatterjee
Bryan Chovanec
Brandon Chynoweth
Antonio Cisneros

Emily Clark
Evan Compton
Jessica Conger
Jennifer Conley
Ashley Cook
Aleksandar Cosovic
Andrea Coulis
Melissa Crary

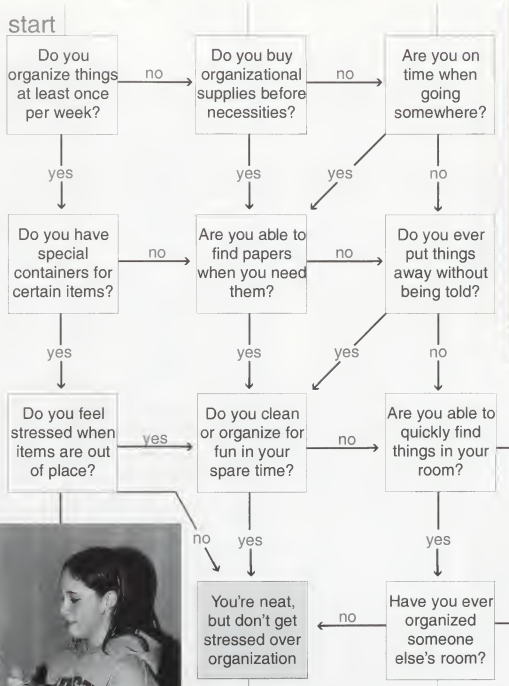
# EXTREMES

# sloppy VS spotless

Whipping clothes across their room or color coding their closets, students choose different organizational methods to keep track of important belongings

**locker frenzy**
Searching though piles of paper for her English book, Elyse Van Camp, freshman, organizes her messy locker. Elyse chose to keep a messy locker when she didn't have time to clean it. "My locker was always messy," Elyse said. "I couldn't find anything in it, but I became accustomed to it that way."

**all tuned up**
Organizing her room, Danielle Niemann, freshman, uses the rag and spray to remove dust. Danielle cleaned to fulfill her parents' wishes. "My parents told me to keep my room clean," Danielle said. "I didn't mind though because I was doing it to make them happy."



Niko Culic
Natalie Culp
Chloe Deal
Benjamin DeBoer
Allison DeBold
Abigail Deidigha
Arielle Dejnowski
Taylor Del Rio

Alyson DeLoera
Brock Dickens
Matthew Donnowitz
Kimberly Dooley
Alynia Dortch
Lauren Drosos
Daniel Drudge
James Economou

Jacquelyne Elman
Ameer Elsalaymeh
Aaron Embrey
Jacob Ernd
Aren Farkas
Farha Farooq
Reem Farooq
Julie Feingold

Grant Felgenhauer
Rodrigo Fernandez-De-Cordoba
Kenneth Florek
Michael Foulkes
Kelly Frank
Joseph Gajewski
Amanda Garcia
Lauren Gaskey

Maya Gendlin
Ilissa Gershman
Jono Ghezzi
Matthew Gifford
Zackery Glasen
Carmelo Gonzalez
Daniel Goodlander
Scott Goodwin

Stephen Gorman
Sarah Grabarczyk
Michael Graczyk
Madeline Grdina
Soumya Gupta
Meghan Guthrie
Ashley Hack
Robert Haddad

Jessica Hajduk
Katharine Hamilton
Amy Hammermeister
Robert Hansen
Michael Harker
Brian Harrigan
Alexa Harris
Michael Hart

Andrew Harvey
Kimberly Hasse
Kimberly Hawkins
Satyanarayan Hegde
Rachel Heinrich
Claudia Hernandez
Keith Hernandez
Lindy Hernandez

Patrick Higgins
Danny Hmurovic
Stephanie Hoffman
Elyse Holloway
Abigail Homans
Jimi Hubbard
Hannah Huebner
Michael Hughes

Jennifer Jamicich
Milena Janevski

Casey Jedrzejczak
Abbie Jercha

Amie Johnson
Chad Johnson

Michael Jones
Kurt Jorgensen

Bryan Joseph
Anthony Jurkash

Joshua Kallen
Joseph Kasenga

Dimitri Katsepas
Daniel Kenzel

Amanda Kilibarda
Andrew Kitchell

Ashley Knezevich
Kristina Kovacevich

# ladies VS gents

Even when making simple decisions, the two sexes react in their own ways. From picking a place to eat to choosing which test to study for first, males and females consider different perspectives when making up their minds.

## How would you react to...

### 1 finding $50 laying on the floor in the Commons

"I'd pick it up, brag about it and put it in my pocket."
*Justin Libak, junior*

"If it was just laying there, I would take it; but if it was in a wallet, I would turn it into the office."
*Kelly Verkaik, sophomore*

### 2 your math teacher announcing a 100 point test

"If the test didn't affect my grade, I wouldn't study; and if it did, then I'd spend a long time studying."
*Chris Ondo, sophomore*

"I would study at about 10 o'clock the night before the test since I was always too busy to study earlier."
*Steph Banach, freshman*

### 3 making up after a fight with a good friend

"If I got into a fight with a friend, I usually wouldn't talk to them for a while. If it was my fault, then I'd offer them some kind of apology. But if it was not my fault, I would wait for them to say something."
*Chetan Chaubal, sophomore*

"I got together one-on-one and tried to resolve the conflict and usually, that made things better."
*Darcie Kozlowski, junior*

**all talk**
Talking in the Commons, freshmen Scott Goodwin, Deana Miskimins and Alex Pavkovich discuss the day. "I valued having the opinion of someone from the opposite sex, for variety, during conversations," Alex said.

Jeffrey Kovacich
Brooke Kozlowski
Stefanie Krasic
Theresa Kretz
Jacob Kunz
Amanda Leal
William Leary
Michael LeBeau

Alexander Lebo
Jeffrey Lee
Sharon Lee
Matthew Lemus
Adam Lerner
Brittany Lewis
David Linnear
Lauren Lipton

Katherine Lissy
Daniel Lodge
Timothy Lukoshus
Natalie Manchak
Roli Mandhana
Monica Manoski
Daniel Manuel
Jeff Marinier

Aimee Maruszczak
Jason Matyasovich
Matthew Matz
Erich Maul
Samantha McCarthy
Jennifer McCreight
Clare McCulloch
Michael McIntyre

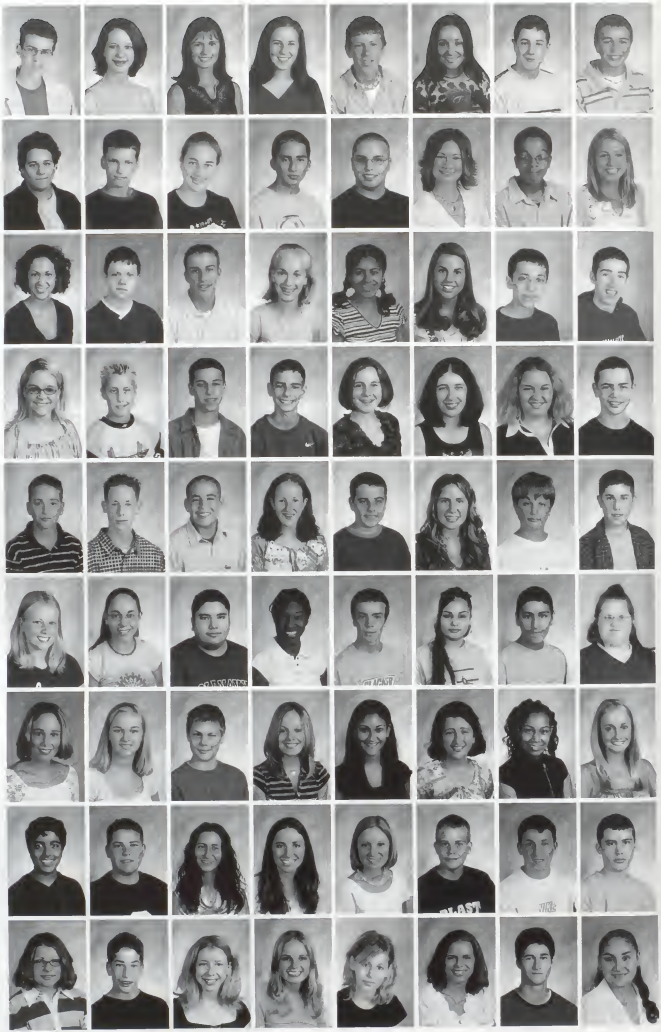
Michael McNicholas
David McWilliams
Ferdinand Medina
Allison Meggers
Brian Meyers
Jennifer Michalski
John Mihich
Ben Milbrath

Anna Millies
Deana Miskimins
Wesam Mohammed
Amber Morrow
Timothy Moseley
Yariria Murillo
Fareed Musa
Lindsey Newell

Danielle Niemann
Kelley Nolan
Stephen Norby
Angela Osterman
Shobha Pai
Daphne Pantazis
Jasmine Pappas
Alyson Patton

Ajay Patwari
Richard Paulson
Alexandra Pavkovich
Nicole Peach
Kathleen Pearman
Alex Peck
Kevin Penman
Bryan Perkins

Stephanie Perz
Kevin Phelan
Heather Phipps
Alyson Pilawski
Nicole Plummer
Kimberly Price
Frank Pukoszek
Stephanie Pulido



# EXTREMES

Peter Puthenveetil

Daniel Rak

Thomas Ramus

Gina Rebesco

Lucia Rigo

Dana Ritter

Jacob Rivera

John Rogers

Robert Romano

## artsy VS analytical

Ranging from creative, artistic and spontaneous to analytical, organized and scientific, students show right-brain or left-brain dominance in their personalities

### Right-Brained: Melissa Crary, freshman

**Study habits:** "I listened to music or watched TV while I was studying."

**Type of learner:** "I was more of a visual learner than an audio learner. I had to write something down to learn it. I liked to see examples and work in groups. I preferred a hands-on project over a lecture and liked using pneumonic devices."

**brushing up**
Referring to a book, Karly Dytrych, sophomore, paints. "I thought more visually than mathematically," Karly said. "I found that I could understand better if I could do something hands-on."

**Hobby:** "I loved to dance; dancing let me express my own creativity more than anything else."

### Left-Brained: Bill Durgin, junior

**Study habits:** "I did work right after I got home. I was driven to complete a task before I could enjoy myself. It was work first, pleasure later."

**Organizational habits:** "I always kept things in their place. My room wasn't like a typical teenager's room that you would think of."

**Academic interests:** "I enjoyed science most. It offered me a chance to look critically at the world around me. I enjoyed figuring things out."

**Hobby:** "I was into martial arts. It involved thinking physically and mentally at the same time, which required logical thought."

## split personalities

**1. Which final did you prefer?**
a. A multiple choice exam
b. Several in-class essays
c. A blend of a and b

**2. A schedule mix-up left you with an opening for two semesters. What do you take?**
a. Probability and Statistics
b. Intro to 2D Art
c. Botany and ceramics

**3. As a freshman, which club piqued your interest most?**
a. Academic Team
b. Art Club
c. Both Speech and Debate

**4. What was your room like?**
a. Clean and organized
b. Messy
c. A bit untidy; creatively organized

**5. Which method of learning suited you best?**
a. A lecture with notes
b. A hands-on project or lab
c. Both methods combined

**6. Mrs. Renee Kouris asked you to write a creative title for an essay about yourself. What did you call yours?**
a. "Who I am"
b. Something creative that only works for your personal essay
c. "My So-Called Life"

**Mostly a's: Left of the Middle**
**Mostly b's: Right-Winged**
**Mostly c's: Even Steven**

Stana Romic
Amanda Roque
Scott Rutkowski
Alex Sakelaris
Thomas Sapyta
Luke Sasek
Michael Sealy
Cylas Sefton

Amanda Seligman
Nicholas Shelton
David Siukola
Matthew Skertich
Samantha Skrobot
Jeffrey Slagle
Kevin Smith
Brad Snedden

David Snuckel
Lisa Sobilo
Sara Soeka
Raymond Sowa
Jason Specyal
Shawn Spicer
Mary Ann Spolnik
Daniel Spungen

Matthew Spyrka
Victoria Sroka
Sarah Standley
Anna Stariha
Chris Stassin
Sarah Steele
Aleka Stefanopoulos
Andy Stevens

Gina Stoffregen
Nicholas Stolarz
Rebecca Stork
David Strain
William Stuart
Matthew Studniarz
Jordan Sunderland
Lance Surma

Susan Suszczyk
Ashley Taylor
Matthew Tepperman
Elizabeth Thompson
Celeste Tiberi
Brent Tomczak
Maximilian Topete
Christopher Topor

Alex Toth
Tamiko Toyama
Alyssa Tremaine
Kevin Trotman
Robbie Urbanowicz
Egle Vaitiekute
Elyse Van Camp
Aric Van Weelden

Tiffany Varney
Nikola Vasich
Joshua Vega
Ian Vera
Melissa Victor
Nicholas Volkman
Kathryn Vroom
John Wadas

Lane Wagner
Timothy Wasem
Kaylyn Watterson
Casey Webb
Mark Webster
Sean Weichman
Lindsay Weiss
Manasseh Wells

# EXTREMES

Zac Wells
Marie Welsh

Matthew Westerlund
Daniel White

Elizaeth Wible
Brian Williams

Jacquelyn Yerga
Molly Yothment

Joseph Zagorski
Eric Zyglowicz

## jungle VS tundra

between the arctic tundra in some parts of the school and the sweltering jungle that characterizes other sections, students struggle to bear inconsistent temperatures in school during summer and winter seasons

**With inconsistent room temperatures throughout the building, students decide on the hottest and coldest rooms.**

### Coldest room: Mr. Paul LaReau, spanish teacher

**Why did you keep your room so cold?**
"One reason was because when rooms got too hot, people started nodding off. Another reason was it motivated people to keep clothing on. People came in with their coats, jackets and sweaters. I tried to keep it in such a way that students didn't mistake the classroom as Cancun and thus, dress in a similar manner."

**What did you do about complainers?**
"They complained quite vociferously; and my reply was, 'It was just the way my heart was. A cold-blooded person needed cold weather.'"

### Hottest room: Mr. Bob Shinkan, math teacher

**Why did you keep your room so hot?**
"I didn't. The thermostat was set on the lowest setting. The heating system and the thermostat didn't work. There was something wrong. To survive in my room, I dressed like it was summer all year. When I went to other parts of the building, I was freezing sometimes."

**Student perspective:**
"Coming from gym beforehand, I felt like I had to swim through the heat in his room. His room was hotter than the gym. After I went in there, I was sweating."
*Scott Goodwin, freshman*

## seasonal five

**Things to anticipate in summer:**

1. Scoping out hotties with your convertible top down
2. Only $1.05 for a 16 oz. vanilla milkshake at Fro-Yo Express
3. Not having to wake up early to scrape ice off your car's windshield
4. Getting your tan on at the sunny Munster Pool
5. Partying until 4 a.m. without having to wake up for school that morning

**Things to anticipate in winter:**

1. Holiday money from the grandparents
2. Superbowl Sunday
3. Holding onto the small hope that WJOB may announce a snow day
4. Snuggling up with your love interest under the mistletoe
5. Two glorious weeks away from your least favorite teachers and classes

**cold comfort**
Stopping at the Breakfast Bar, Marko Djuric, sophomore, grabs a Chewy granola bar. Marko planned to go back outside to get to the band room for first hour, so he kept his coat on. "I also kept my coat on because my second period class was in North, and that class was an icebox," Marko said.

# EXTREMES

# shocking VS soothing

Pumping students up with adrenaline before a sporting event or creating a relaxing atmosphere while doing homework, music plays a different role for each student

**What benefits did you receive from music, and why did you choose to listen to certain types?**

"Music provided an escape for me where I could be myself and forget my problems. When I went to concerts, hearing the artist perform live was an amazing adventure that I didn't experience with anything else. I listened to country music because the lyrics were uplifting, and I had a good feeling after I listened to a song."

*Katie Pearman, freshman*

"Music relaxed me when I listened to it, and it pumped me up at the same time. Concerts were a thrill unlike any other occurrence I had experienced. I listened to Dave Matthews Band because I understood his words."

*John Hansen, sophomore*

"I liked alternative rock because it was loud, and it got the audience involved in the music. During concerts thousands of people sang the same lyrics, and the band bonded with the crowd of fans. I loved singing along during shows."

*Ana Sretenovic, junior*

"Music inspired me to try my best and encouraged me to work my hardest when I had something to accomplish. I chose country music because the words and meaning had a positive influence, and the beat was soft."

*Rachel Anderson, junior*

**Jia Hou, junior (pianist)**

- **Instrument:** piano
- **Number of years played:** 10
- **Hours of practice/week:** 5-7
- **Motivations:** he loved music, and it played a large role in his everyday life
- **Encouragement:** his parents, the people who started his music career
- **Biggest piano achievement:** playing at Carnegie Hall in New York
- **Future plans for music:** learn the bass or guitar and continue with piano
- **Comment about Carnegie Hall:** "The best aspects were the enjoyment of playing for such distinguished guests (The United Nations) and the intrinsic travel opportunities."

**tune in**
Relaxing to some tunes, Elise Eldert, junior, listens to a CD while working on homework. Students found that it made homework easier to listen to music. "I always listened to music when I did my homework because it relaxed me and put me in a better state of mind," Elise said.

Enajevwe Akoforo
Daniel Albrecht-Mallinger
Elena Alcala
Elizabeth Alonzo
Ashley Alters
Mario Alvarez
Lori Andjelich
Eric Appelsies

Jessica Arens
Spelios Bacoyanis
Mark Balicki
Steven Balog
Brent Banach
Jacquelyn Banas
Joel Barnes
Jordan Barnes

Ariel Bazan
Kyle Becich
Michelle Becka
Natalie Belkairous
Cristina Benavente
Erica Bhavsar
Andrew Bissonnette
Breanne Bizon

Martin Blumberg
Brittany Bohling
Zakary Boswell
Douglas Boyer
Emily Bradley
Stephenie Brajak
Jessica Brakulis
Ashley Brian

Beau Brokop
Ashley Brown
Lucy Brown
Grant Burdeau
Melissa Burford
Sarah Burnstein
Nicole Cacich
John Camp

Laura Campos
Marnan Campos
Jenna Candiano
Nicholas Capizzani
Seth Carlberg
Adam Carlson
Ashley Carlson
Nicole Castor

Philip Chan
Christen Chapman
Chetan Chaubal
Michael Cheek
Allison Chelgren
David Chen
Jason Chen
Gina Christopher

Richard Cigler
Elizabeth Ciupa
Trevor Clippert
Matthew Coduti
Corrie Cummins
Lauren Davis
Shannen Davis
Jeffrey De Armond

Alyssa Debold
Christopher Demars
Matthew Derolf
Ashley Devries
Emily Diekelmann
Ryan Dillner
Marko Djuric
Christina Domenico

# EXTREMES

# busybody VS homebody

Whether rushing to fit in a Project X meeting, a speech appointment, and soccer practice or sprinting out the door just as the 2:45 p.m. bell sounds, students choose to budget their afterschool hours differently.

**How did you spend your afterschool freetime?**

"When the bell rang, I usually was in a rush out because the buses didn't stay too long after the bell. School got me a little stressed out. All the constant work for 6-7 hours just got to me. When I got home, I wound down by watching television or even by playing hockey outside. It was just some time to get away from the stresses of school, tests and having [hockey] practices so late and waking up so early."

*Ryan Burke, freshman*

"I enjoyed not being run by school activities. It seemed like I was at the school too much anyway. I didn't want to stay there too much longer. I thought being in some after-school activities was beneficial, but I would never want to be a person who was always at the school doing something. I liked having my options open. I could decide right at the moment if I wanted to do something, not worrying about if I could fit something fun into my busy schedule."

*Laura Lautz, junior*

"Thursdays after school I changed into workout clothes. I ran a couple miles in the Fieldhouse to keep in shape. It gave me something to do instead of going home and just sitting around. I felt pretty tired, but then I weight-trained a little bit until cheerleading practice. Then, even though I was usually already exhausted, I went to practice until 7:30 p.m. I went home, ate dinner and did my homework. When I finished, I usually fell asleep right away. I really didn't have free time during the week, but it didn't bug me because what I did was what I chose to do with my free time."

*Brittney Bohling, sophomore*

Ryan Drees

Ashley Drobac

Pete Drogolewicz

Brennan Drosos

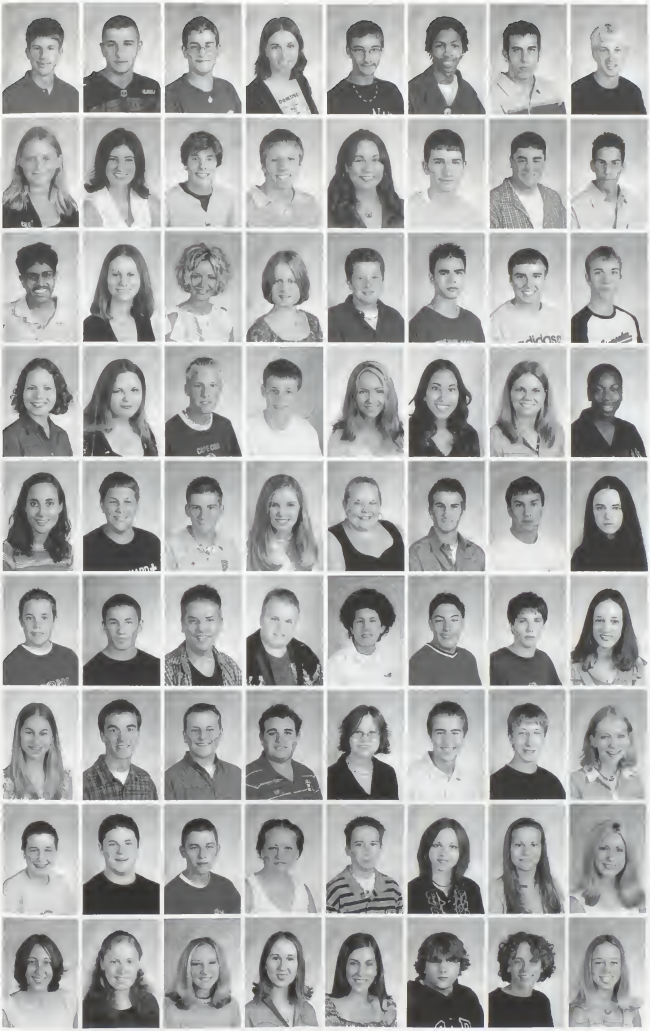
Jennifer Dubish

Ashley Dudzik

Bradley Dunham

Joseph Dwars

Karlyn Dytrych



Elliot Eismin
Rade Elek
Bradley Elias
Nicole Enright
Mark Evans
Mark Everette
Jonathon Fisher
Jared Flahaven

Stephanie Frank
Kelly Fray
Jonathan Funston
Jeffery Gaik
Morgan Geberin
Gregory Gier
Sam Golfis
Jonathan Gonzalez

Elil Gopalan
Jessica Gorman
Mariann Gornal
Rachel Gosciej
Jason Gott
Clint Grall
Thomas Grantner
Andrew Graves

Genevieve Grdina
Amanda Green
Adam Grunewald
Daniel Grunewald
Lauren Guidotti
Manini Gupta
Brogan Guthrie
Marcus Hammonds

Heather Haneman
John Hansen
Joseph Harker
Kathleen Harvey
Allison Hasselloť
Michael Hawryszkow
Collin Hayes
Amy Heaney

Matthew Heintz
Shawn Hendron
James Hennes
Christopher Hernandez
Justin Hernandez
Margarito Hernandez
Adam Hirsch
Irena Hnatusko

Amy Hoffman
Kevin Hoffman
Taylor Hopkins
Theodore Horowitz
Laura Hruska
Adam Hruskocy
Michael Hubbard
Kaylen Huggy

Joseph Hunt
Blake Hunter
Steven Hus
Holly Ispas
Timothy Johnson
Justine Jones
Michelle Jones
Erin Joseph

Melissa Jurich
Diana Kaiser
Hana Keil
Kristen Kendall
Vasilia Kilibarda
Kevin Kocsis
Andrew Koessler
Kaitlin Korem

# EXTREMES

# early bird VS night owl

from burning the midnight oil to beating sunrise, students schedule their daily activities. With early morning practices and late night online chats, teens battle fatigue, procrastination, and hectic routines.

**TO DO LIST: Sprint out to the car and rush to early morning practice before coach arrives; hurry to Jewel for bread for the French party; glue on last pictures onto photo project; finish algebra problems 1 through 20; squeeze in studying for three tests...so much to do, so little time**

### Stephanie Perz, freshman (early riser)

| | |
|---|---|
| 5 a.m. | Wakes to the alarm |
| 5:25 | Enters pool for morning swim practice |
| 7:35 | Grabs a bite to eat at the Breakfast Bar |
| 7:45 | Arrives at Mr. Coil's biology class for first hour |
| 3 p.m. | Back in the pool for practice |
| 5:20 | Arrives home |
| 6:00 | Eats dinner |
| 6:30 | Starts homework |
| 8:45 | Goes to bed |

"After morning practice, I was more alert ," Stephanie said. "It woke me up, so I was not as grouchy for the rest of the day."

### Tom Burek, junior (night rider)

| | |
|---|---|
| 6 a.m. | Wakes up to an alarm |
| 6:50 | Eats breakfast |
| 7:45 | Enters Mr. Lopez's room for U.S. History first hour |
| 3 p.m. | Works out after school in the weight room |
| 5:20 | Arrives home |
| 5:30 | Watches TV |
| 7:00 | Eats dinner |
| 7:30 | Does his homework |
| 9:00 | Sits down to watch TV |
| 1:00 | Goes to bed |

"I ended up staying up late because I didn't do my homework early and procastinated; I either stayed up to do it or ended up finishing it during Study Hall," Tom said. "You could get more done if you stayed up. However, the consequence you paid was sacrificing your sleep."

Erica Koselke
Stephen Krolak
Gregory Kurz
Nikola Kutansky
Prince Kwateng
Eric LaMagdeleine
Linda Landowski
Lyndsay Langbehn

Sarah-Anne Lanman
Sarah Laymon
Dennis Lee
Paul Leitelt
Sondra Leslie
Sean Leto
Daniel Lewis
Sarah Liszka

Todd Loden
Elias Lopez
Ian Lopez
Keith Lorenz
Patrick Los
Taryn Lotak
James Lucas
Paul Malayter

Christopher Maloney
Benjamin Mann
Bill Marinakos
Kimberly Markovich
Michael Mashura
Anne McShane
Alfonso Menchaca
Elise Miller

Steven Millies
Chad Montemayor
Kristen Moran
Nicholas Murphy
Krystle Murzyn
Rachel Myszak
Ibrahim Najamuddin
Kavita Nana

Julie Nelson
John Nootens
Michael Nowak
Alexis Nykiel
Murad Omery
Christopher Ondo
Jessica Orzel
Elizabeth Osborne

Robert Ostrowski
Andrew Paarlberg
Sara Pappas
Arturo Parano
Nicole Parra
Patrick Pataky
Bennis Pavisian
David Pavkovich

Farris Pearson
Ross Petersen
Joseph Petrone
Dragana Petrovic
Joseph Piatek
Shawn Pizzuto
Brandon Platt
Aaron Pleitner

Jessica Pleitner
Amanda Pogach
Paige Popravak
David Porter
Neerja Prasad
Rachel Pucalik
Lindsey Pugh
Gordana Radmilovic

# EXTREMES

# obsessed VS oblivious

Ranging from vehicles adorned with personalized license plates and booming sound systems to cars with no more accessories than a parking pass, students choose ways to show off their personalized cars.

**How do you spend extra cash on accessories for your car?**

"My car was just a car to get me around. I didn't really care if it was nice because I didn't pay for it. To make it look cool, I jazzed it up with a fuzzy purple steering wheel cover. The way I saw it, why put money into a car that is not going to last longer than three more years?"

*Kelly McWilliams, junior*

"It was pointless to spend money on small accessories for your car because it could end up making it look tacky. When it came to something like speaker systems, it was a different story. If you bought a car that didn't have a good system to begin with, then changing or improving it was the only thing that you could do."

*Mike Celozzi, junior*

roll out
As he opens his car door, Alex Cheng, senior, prepares to leave school at the end of the day. "I didn't really care about putting a lot of work into my car because I didn't have a lot of money to do so," Alex said. "I would personally rather have spent my money on CD's or concert tickets."

"It was nice to be out and driving around recognizing people that you knew because of the way their car looked. When I got my decal, I made sure it was in the color and style I wanted. Accesssories were all about showing your personality."

*Rachel Castleton, junior*

"I was very protective of my car. When I went out anywhere, I always parked far enough away so that no one could hit it. I didn't see a need to add accessories because when I bought my car, it already had everything that I wanted."

*Alphie Menchaca, sophomore*

Danica Rajcevic
Bojan Rajkovic

Anna Rak
Erica Ranade

Suman Rao
Pratik Raval

McKenzie Rawden
Eric Reed

Jonathan Rich
Jennifer Rogowski

Branka Romic
Maritza Roque

Brian Rubesha
Elizabeth Rubino

Alexandra Ruich
James Ryan

Natalie Samano
Katherine Sampias

Sara Schulte
Stephanie Scully
Christian Selent
Aditya Shah
Kate Shapiro
Phillip Shapiro
Andrew Sharp
Kelly Shaw

Tina Shieh
Michael Sichling
Kelly Simmons
Thomas Simmons
Kevin Sinchak
Harjot Singh
Kathryn Slaboski
Milica Smiljic

Aaron Smith
Justin Smith
Rebecca Sons
Angela Sowinski
Christopher Spedus
Anthony Stack
Jessica Stalmack
Kristina Standley

Kristina Stephan
Erica Stout
Kevin Strbjak
Amanda Stump
Andrew Sulkowski
Michael Svilar
Kristen Szafasz
Yunwei Tai

Melissa Thomas
Patrick Thomas
Colin Tomazin
Arun Umapathy
Valerie Umlauf
Jennifer Vacendak
Ugnius Vaitiekus
Greg Van Camp

Elizabeth Van Wieren
Michael Van Wyk
Emilee Vandersluis
Scott Vandersteen
Aubrey Velasquez
Kelly Verkaik
Mireya Villalba
Rogelio Villalobos

Elizabeth Volkoff
Eric Wallace
Justin White
Danielle Wilks
Marc Wilson
Cara Witecki
Victoria Wojciechowski
Dylan Wood

Brian Wujek
Kelly Yurasovich
David Zagorski
Goran Zarkovic
Eric Zarowny
Jennifer Zgorka
Zhi Zheng
Steven Ziemba

Jaime Zlamal
Beth Zyglowicz

Milan Acamovic
Amanda Achter
Bryan Adams
Aja Aktay
Emily Alberti
Drew Albertson
Daniel Alfonsi
Rachel Anderson

Ryan Anderson
Stefania Andjelich
Matthew Baker
Athena Bakris
Jillian Balazs
Kimberly Balzer
Darius Bamboat
Bart Banach

Lauren Banas
Chirag Barai
Julie Bassetto
Justine Bauer
Brooke Becchino
George Behrens
Jonathan Benedek
Joselynn Berg

Scott Bertagnolli
Nancy Bielfeldt
Brandi Bishop
Tyson Blake
Nikki Bland
James Bochnowski
Robert Bogs
Bryan Bokowy

Dustin Bothwell
Ryan Bowers
Sarah Bradish
Kristen Brazel
Andrew Bridgman
George Budzik
Lauren Bugajski
Tom Burek

Christina Burke
Jonathan Caddick
Joshua Caddick
Brian Carraher
Rachel Caselton
Alexandra Castaneda
Neisy Castillo
Michael Celozzi

Ashley Chemerinsky
Lauren Cherrier
Euna Choi
Wally Cirafesi
Peter Ciric
Kara Clark
Louis Contos
Jamie Cook

Stephanie Coulis
Paul Cowgill
Matthew Culp
Gregory Curran
Suzanne Curtis
Brianne Cusick
Justin Dal Corobbo
Ashley Damjanovich

Erik Daniel
Katherine Daniels
Enneressa Davis
Kaitlin De Cero
Thomas De Giulio
Samuel Deidigha
Addison Del Rio
Todd Dell 'Aquila

# warden VS criminal

Every parent delineates specific guidelines for their teenage children. When students push the envelope by coming home fifteen minutes past curfew or failing their math class, they must then deal with the inevitable punishment.

**School provides a sanctuary from parental guidance, but imagine the plight of those whose parent works on the school faculty. From 1 to 10, how strictly did each teacher punish their child?**

**6** "I always had to try 200 percent and had to study a lot. She was always well-informed with all my teachers. Being a teacher herself, she knew what a good student was. She wanted me to be one."

**Lindsay Weiss, freshman**

**6** "[We] were treated differently because I was three years older. My parents were easier with her because they weren't as worried seeing her doing the things they saw me doing at her age.

"At one point, my mom said, 'We can't ground you your entire life. But if you keep playing that game where we can't trust you, you can't trust us with what we do to you.'"

**Lenny Weiss, senior**

**7** "My standards were very high. I just sometimes wished they made schoolwork as important as I did. I hoped they placed more pressure on themselves rather than the motivation coming from me."

**Mrs. Jody Weiss, English teacher**

**7** "He was pretty lenient except when it came to grades. He was actually more strict at school then he was at home. He expected me to get A's and B's, but I didn't think him being a teacher made a difference. He just expected me to do well; so when I didn't, he got mad and grounded me for a week or so."

**Mike Shinkan, junior**

**10** "I might have been a little overly bearing. We were sometimes probably a little too strict. Mike had to understand that he was under a microscope because of my position in school. He represented not only himself, but the entire family as well."

**Mr. Bob Shinkan, math teacher**

Jason Dillon
Amanda Diombala
Sara Dobrinich
Kristie Drudge
John Dumakowski
William Durgin
Stephanie Dybel
Nicholas Egnatz

Elise Eldert
Lindsey Ellingsen
Jordan Ellison
Jacob Elman
David Estrada
William Evans
Zachary Fabert
Stephen Fell

Kelley Fernandez
Bryan Flores
Jenna Flores
Brent Fox
Robert Franklin
Michael Friedman
Anthony Gallagher
Sheiphali Gandhi

Alex Gikas
Rachel Gill
Danielle Gillund
Jonathan Girot
Jennifer Gluek
Christopher Gomez
Kristin Gorski
Scott Gray

Sara Gregson
Carlyn Grow
James Grunewald
Christina Guanzon
Allison Hanas
Mark Hannigan
Jillian Hanrahan
Sheree Hanrahan

Chris Hansel
Molly Hanson
Lauren Harrington
Sara Harvey
Drew Hauflaire
Allison Hawkins
Brian Hayes
Jacqueline Hayes

Kristina Herbeck
John Herr
Megan Hershberger
Elizabeth Hinkleman
Bryce Hlista
Chad Holajter
Nathan Holobowski
Jia Hou

Kathryn Howarth
Nicole Huffman
James Jamrock
Carolyn Jania
Miljan Jankovic
Jayme Jedrzejczak
Matthew Jillson
Christine Johnson

David Johnson
Emily Jones
Danielle Jordan
Shreyas Joshi
Adam Kalemba
Matthew Kasenga
Adam Kaufman
Kersten Kelly

Kate Kerner
Melissa Kerzner

Kristina Kesely
Julie Kiekenapp

Kara Klebs
James Knesek

Philip Kompare
Julia Konopasek

Samantha Korda
Christopher Kozlowski

Darcie Kozlowski
Lisa Krismanick

Brian Kuhn
Patrick Kunka

Katrina Kupski
Andrea Lackey

Christina Largus
Robbie Larson

# buying VS bagging

**From Monday's pizza slice and Chicago dog to a brown-bag packed with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, students have a wide variety of choices during lunch and share their choices for lunch.**

Either indulging in Pasta Bar Fridays or routinely bringing along a turkey sandwich, students choose from a hot lunch or something home made

## Nicole Castor, sophomore
brown-bagger

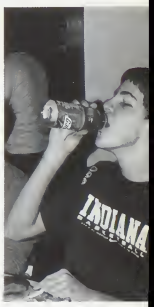
**Typical Lunch:**
- half a peanut butter and jelly sandwich
- a piece of fruit
- a bottle of water

"I had changed my eating styles and preferred to eat healthy because I was doing sports this year. You couldn't just eat junk food for sports. I thought [healthy food] would help my nutrition and help me build up more muscle than fat."

## Scott Rutkowski, freshman
snack junkie

**Typical Lunch:**
- Otis M&M Cookies
- a can of Hawaiian Punch
- french fries
- desserts

"The taste was very good. It was better than pizza and stuff. It just looked better. I liked all the snacks here because all the foods I had at home were fruits too."



Kathryn Laudermilk
Laura Lautz
Emily Lawrence
Andrew Lee
Maureen Leopold
William Lewis, Jr.
Justin Libak
Thea Logan

Michael Lowe
Elisa Lucatero
David Lukomski
Timothy Macak
Lindsay Mambourg
James Manuel
Joshua Martin
Jason Mayer

James Mayfield
Michael Mc Carthy
Jeffrey Mc Cullough
Erin Mc Guan
Michelle McIntyre
Kelly McWilliams
Madonna Mecha
Milena Medakovic

Rachel Medina
Sherri Mehok
Britney Meier
Bryan Michel
Christopher Mihalo
Rachel Mihich
Kate Mikels
Lindsay Miller

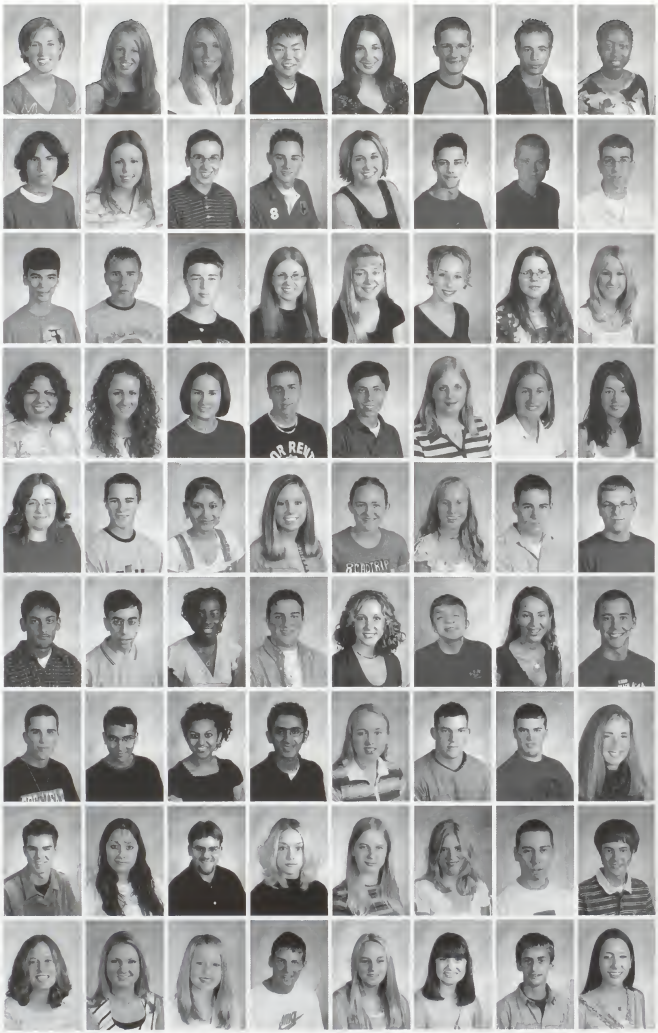
Michelle Miskimins
Andrew Moffitt
Erika Molina
Madilyn Moran
Alexandria Morley
Madeleine Morley
Michael Morley
David Murks

Bhavik Nana
Thomas Novosel
Katherine Ntiamoah
Roddy Oancea
Melissa Obszanski
Dan Ogren
Natalia Paez
David Paliga

Jeffrey Papaleo
Nilay Parikh
Kinnary Patel
Vishal Patel
Nicole Patterson
Michael Penman
Johnathan Perkins
Ryann Perlinski

Russell Petersen
Julie Petrone
Daniel Phillips
Corie Poppa
Elissa Porte
Michelle Potter
Tom Powley
Michael Pryzbylski

Elizabeth Puterko
Kathy Pycinska
Suzanne Quasny
Brandon Rafacz
Kara Ralowski
Stephanie Rangel
Joshua Raycroft
Kaitlin Rebesco



Megan Remec

Kristopher Renzi

Marijana Repac

David Resler

Amanda Reuter

Claire Robertson

Nicole Rogers

Alissa Rosario

Amy Saltanovitz

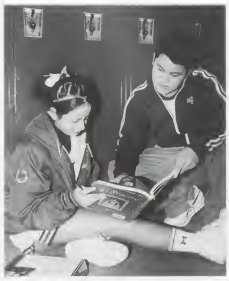
# single VS multiple

Fitting into an episode of the Brady Bunch or falling under the category of only child, students adjust to their families' size accordingly.

discovering how family shapes their lifestyles, students growing up as only children and those with siblings realize that their household's size affects their family and personalitiy

## Tamiko Toyama, freshman (7 siblings)

**Biggest Challenge:** Taking turns



"The hardest thing to deal with was taking turns because everyone had their own needs. It got annoying and hard to deal with everyone wanting to go online at the same time."

**Advantages:** Improved social skills and a more outspoken personality

**Parental control:** Strict

"My parents were strict; they had more kids to look after."

"I believed that family influenced you just as much as friends," Tamiko said. "Being from a big family had shaped my personality to make me an outgoing person."

## Rich Shudick, junior (0 siblings)

**Biggest challenge:** No close confidants

"When I wasn't with my friends, I missed having someone to talk to."

**Advantages:** Didn't have to compete for attention

"You didn't have to include siblings when you went places, and your parents didn't pick favorites. They only had you to choose from."

**Parental control:** Lenient

"If I had an older [sibling], [my parents] would learn from him and be more strict from their mistakes."

"When I was younger, I wanted a little brother or sister; but now I think I'm better off," Rich said. "I didn't deal with fighting. It was peaceful."

Dana Sarber
Dustin Schmidt
Jeffrey Schmidt
Nathan Schmidt
Renee Schmitt
Jackie Schneider
Robert Schoon
Andrew Schutz

Leah Shaffer
Neel Shah
Sapna Shah
Shivani Sharma
Michael Shideler
Amanda Shike
Michael Shinkan
Anton Shishkin

Richard Shudick
Raymond Sicinski
Mark Sikora
Nicole Simchak
John Simmons
Christopher Sipes
Christian Sjostrom
Lauren Skibinski

Alexandra Skinner
Kristi Smith
Krystle Smith
Nicholas Smith
Steven Sochacki
Joseph Soeka
Jessica Solis
Anthony Spinosa

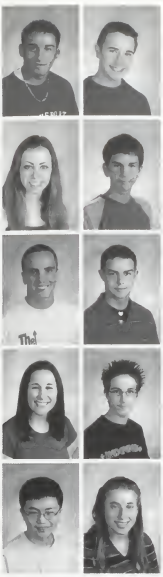
Andrew Spivey
Sheri Spolnik
Ana Sretenovic
Sheena Srivastava
Amanda Stamos
Lindsey Steele
Natalie Stigall
Emily Stine

Sarah Stockle
Maria Stopper
Michael Strain
Scott Strandberg
Nedra Stuart
James Sunderland
Dijita Sundi
Theodore Surma

Ryan Szanyi
Katelyn Szewka
Craig Talbot
Kristin Tanzillo
Brian Tepper
Michael Thompson
Michael Tiberi
Lauren Torres

Toshiro Toyama
Jeffrey Trgovich
Rebecca Triemstra
Ashley Troumouliaris
Hali Tsolakos
Booram Ur
Susan Valand
Catherine Van Der Giessen

Joshua Varney
Troy Velasquez
Timothy Veldkamp
Morgan Wagner
Stacey Welsh
Christopher Wey
Matthew Whitlatch
Clark Wick



Patrick Winterhaler
Daniel Witkus

Lauren Wright
Kevin Wysock

Donald Yamtich
Michael Yatsko

Jill Young
Michael Zembala

Luo Jia Zheng
Stacy Zuick

# rice cake VS cupcake

When picking an afterschool snack, some students opt for convenience over nutritional value. From apples to bags of chips, students satisfy their cravings.

**Do you eat healthy food or junk food for an afterschool snack?**

"I usually ate healthily because I got sick from greasy foods, but I did eat junk like chips and cookies occasionally because after all, I was just a typical teenager."
*Stephanie Andjelich, junior*

"When I ate out, I preferred getting a healthy deli sandwich over a fatty burger. But if it was just at home, the junk was easier to get, so I usually just grabbed a bag of chips or some cookies."
*Elena Alcala, sophomore*

"Some food I ate was healthy, and some wasn't. The unhealthy stuff always tasted better, so it was almost necessary for me to follow up the healthy stuff, like vegetables, with junk, like cookies."
*Gabriel Blakeley, freshman*

"I would have liked to say that I was a healthy eater; but unfortunately, I was not. On a rare occasion, I would have fruit or vegetables; but most of the time, I opted for something greasy and unhealthy because it tasted better."
*Dan Phillips, junior*

**chicken out**
In order to cook a healthy dinner, Becky Sons, sophomore, reads the nutritional facts on packages of chicken at Jewel. "Once in a while I felt like making myself a meal that was good for me," Becky said.

**quick bite**
Getting ready to eat at McDonald's, Sheena Srivastava, junior, buys a Big Mac meal from Brian Cheek, senior. "Even though it was bad for you, it tasted so good that I ate there once in a while," Sheena said.

## fast facts

**McDonald's**

| | |
|---|---|
| Big Mac | 540 Calories |
| | 31 grams of fat |
| Fries | 210 Calories |
| | 16 grams of fat |

*Source: McDonald's*

**Subway**

| | |
|---|---|
| BMT 6" sub | 480 Calories |
| | 24 grams of fat |
| Sun Chips | 140 Calories |
| | 19 grams of fat |

*Source: Subway.com*

# hobbies developing interests

With their workday filled with lectures and grading, teachers keep their sanity by indulging in their own hidden passions

**Can you match the teachers to their favorite freetime obsessions?**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. wears festive ties | a. Mr. Steve Moell |
| 2. plays weekly tennis | b. Mr. Marc Lehnerer |
| 3. writes calligraphy | c. Ms. Becky Ladd |
| 4. works on stock cars | d. Mrs. Charlene Tsoutsouris |
| 5. cooks | e. Mr. Jeff Graves |
| 6. plays golf | f. Mrs. Nancy Hastings |
| 7. volunteers at the Shedd Aquarium | g. Mr. Mike Wells |
| 8. wears Pittsburgh Steelers attire | h. Mrs. Eileen Meier |
| 9. reads | i. Mr. Steve Wroblewski |
| 10. collects cow knicknacks | j. Mrs. Sue Durkin |
| 11. heads the bowling team | k. Mr. Matt Kalwasinski |
| 12. crafts necklaces | l. Mrs. Kristine Mendoza |

**Answers:** 1.l; 2.d; 3.h; 4.k; 5.b; 6.g; 7.j; 8.a; 9.i; 10.f; 11.e; 12.c

**Mrs. Darlene Acosta:** SADD, Attendance Secretary
**Mrs. Linda Adams:** Principal's Secretary, Project X
**Mrs. Kay Arkfeld:** Westlake Aide
**Ms. Christine Barajas:** Westlake Aide
**Mrs. Sharon Bartel:** Westlake Aide

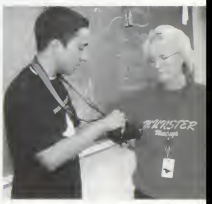
**Dr. Timothy Bartlett:** Vocal Music Director, Ensembles Director, Musical Director
**Mr. Brent Barton:** Westlake Education
**Mr. Larry Brechner:** Theater Department
**Mrs. Donna Buck:** Westlake Aide
**Ms. Dawn Bulut:** Westlake Aide

**Mr. Matthew Burr:** Westlake Aide
**Mr. Brian Clark:** English, Head Boys' Golf, Ass't Football, Ass't Wrestling
**Mr. Gary Davis:** Physical Education, Lifesaving
**Mrs. Carrie Diombala:** Non-educational Aide
**Mrs. Therese Dristas:** Technology Resource Coordinator

**face off**
While receiving a painted M on her face from Stephanie Coulis, junior, Mrs. Renee Kouris, English teacher, tries to psych up her students for the Homecoming pep rally. "I did it to show that if you got involved, you could have fun," Mrs. Kouris said. "That was what it was all about."

**on the ball**
At Plaza Lanes Mr. Steve Moell, math teacher, takes his turn during his Wednesday night bowling league. "I started when I was five because my uncle owned a bowling alley," Mr. Moell said. "I grew up in [an alley]."

**picture this**
Disappointed with another broken rewind motor, Mrs. Nancy Hastings, publications adviser, talks with Jeff Furticella, senior. "We were talking about what on earth was wrong," Mrs. Hastings said. "It was the second to break in under a month."



**Mrs. Sue Durkin:** Composition, French, German
**Mrs. Christina Engle:** Westlake Education
**Mr. Carl Fields:** Art
**Mrs. Carol Florence:** Guidance Counselor
**Mr. Don Fortner:** Economics, Speech Coach, Ass't Girls' Volleyball

**Mrs. Debbie Fritzsche:** Media Secretary
**Mr. Al Gandolfi:** Assistant Principal
**Officer James Ghrist:** Resource Officer
**Mrs. Barb Gibbons:** Westlake Aide
**Mr. Michael Gordon**: Government, Junior Class sponsor

**Mr. Jeff Graves:** Chemistry
**Mr. Mike Hackett:** Health, Outdoor Education, Head Boys' Basketball
**Mrs. Kay Hansen:** Guidance Office Secretary
**Mrs. Nancy Hastings:** Journalism, Media Arts, *Paragon*, *Crier*, Quill and Scroll
**Miss Kelly Haussman:** Chemistry

**dont sweat** it
Focused on the TV screen, Mrs. Linda Scheffer, foods teacher, and Art Insurriaga, senior, complete an exercise video. "At my age, working out had to be a good thing for me to do," Mrs. Scheffer said.

**pep** talk
Helping out Sophia Blakeley, senior, Mr. Rob McCall, English teacher, explains an assignment. "I was always Coach McCall or Mr. McCall outside of school. I liked the fact that I could go anywhere and still be able to coach students," Mr. McCall said.

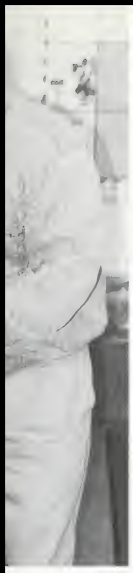
**Mr. Larry Hautzinger:** Physics, Geometry, Ass't Boys' Swim
**Mr. Arthur Haverstock:** Biology
**Ms. Lisa Homer:** Math, Freshmen Class sponsor
**Mr. Matthew Kalwasinski:** Social Studies, Psychology
**Mrs. Dessie Kammer:** Guidance Counselor

**Mr. Larry Keilman:** Westlake Aide
**Mrs. Deb Kelley:** Auditorium Secretary
**Mrs. Renee Kouris:** English, Technical Theater, Drama
**Miss Becky Ladd:** English, Speech Coach
**Mr. Marc Lehnerer:** English, World Literature, Speech, Composition

**Mrs. Andrea Lemon:** Westlake Education
**Mrs. Linda Lemon:** English
**Mr. Steve Lopez :** Social Studies, Head Boys' Tennis , Ass't Boys' Track
**Mrs. Patricia Macak:** Westlake Aide
**Mrs. Sandra Madsen:** English, Composition

# finding their identity whole new ballgame

Countering the image of a school staff that only doles out homework and discipline, teachers and administrators head to the bowling lanes or movie theaters to experience a life outside of high school



**play** ball
During wrestling practice, Mr. Brian Clark, English teacher, hands a ball to his son. "I was lucky to have the chance for my kids to come to school so I could spend time with them at my job," Mr. Clark said.

**How did students react when they saw teachers outside of the classroom?**

"When I went to Showplace 16, kids freaked out. I didn't think students expected to find me at the movies, but teachers did the same things that anyone else did. I always saw a lot of kids at Serbian dances, and I knew they thought it was so bizzare that I was there too."
*Mrs. Beth Vesa, math teacher*

"Most students perceived teachers as incapable of having fun. I saw students at restaurants and movies, and they always seemed to be shocked to see me out.
*-Mr. Matt Kalwasinski, History, Psychology teacher*

"Since I talked to kids about their outside interests more often then a classroom teacher, I didn't think they saw me the same way they might have seen a regular classroom teacher. At games and malls, they went out of their way to say, 'Hi,' to me."
*Mr. Jack King, dean of students*

"When I went to Southlake Mall, I would notoriously run into students. I perceived their first reaction to be, 'Oh my God, there's Mr. Gandolfi.' They should have treated me as any other adult because I wasn't mean all the time."
*Mr. Al Gandolfi, assistant principal*

**Ms. Paula Malinski:** Physical Education
**Mr. Leroy Marsh:** Health Education, Weight Training, Head Football
**Mrs. Alyce Mart-Webb:** French, French Club, Couture Club
**Mr. Rob McCall:** English, Ass't Varsity Football, Ass't Girls' Track
**Mr. Jim McNabney:** English, Debate Coach

**Mrs. Eileen Meier:** German, German Club
**Mr. Fred Mendoza:** Spanish
**Mr. Chris Miller:** Social Studies
**Mr. Stephen Moell:** Math
**Mrs. Nancy Newcomb:** Business, Computer Applications

**Mrs. Lori Nicholas:** Media Specialist
**Mrs. Kathy Olivotto:** Guidance Counselor
**Mrs. Suzanne Owen:** Media Specialist
**Miss Valerie Pflum:** Math, Senior Class, Ping Pong Club, Ass't Girls' Soccer
**Mrs. Jackie Podkul:** Math, Sophomore Class sponsor

**chit chat**
Standing at a lunch table, Mr. Al Gandolfi, assistant principal, talks to students. "The opportunity to see students outside my office without a discipline issue was one of the best parts of my day," Mr. Gandolfi said.

**car show**
With a toy car in hand, Mr. Jack King, dean of students, jokes around with seniors in the Commons. "I tried to show kids that I had a sense of humor so they'd feel comfortable coming to me about problems," Mr. King said.

Mr. William Pfister, superintendent of schools; Mr. Richard Sopko, assistant superintendent; Dr. Michael O'Connor, assistant to the superintendent

Mr. David Schneider, secretary; Mrs. Judith Floczak, member; Mrs. Carrie Wadas, vice president; Mrs. Paula Nellans, member; Mr. John Friend, member

**game time**
Standing on the sidelines, Mr. Leroy Marsh, health education teacher, and Mr. Mike Smith, athletic director, enjoy the sights and sounds of a Boys' Basketball conference game.

**Mrs. Pat Premetz:** Calculus, Math Department chair
**Mrs. Linda Redar:** Non-educational Aide
**Mrs. Jan Riccio :** Secretary

**Mrs. Marilyn Rizzo:** Family and Consumer Science, Foods
**Mr. David Russell:** English, Creative Writing
**Mrs. Lynn Schumacher:** American Sign Language, American Sign Language Club

**Mrs. Georgia Sherman:** Media Secretary
**Mr. Bob Shinkan:** Geometry, Boys' Varsity Baseball, Ass't Varsity Football

# whole new ballgame

**Take this quiz to see if you know which teacher corresponds with their personality trait.**

**1.)** As you walk into class, you hear classical music. Taking a second to read the daily quote on the chalkboard before taking your seat, you prepare for the bi-weekly vocab quiz.
a) McCall b) Edington
c) Shinkan d) Fortner

**2.)** After walking into second hour, you don't seem surprised that your teacher has once again rearranged the classroom furniture on a random whim. She warns that you have one minute to finish the task at hand.
a) Pflum b) Mendoza
c) Kouris d) Hastings

**3.)** Glancing around the room, you notice the historic events written on the front chalkboard. The fans scattered around the room helped to ease the hot temperature of this classroom.
a) Lopez b) Madsen
c) Lemon d) Kalwasinski

Answers: 1.) a 2.) c 3.) a

**lunch bunch**
Locating a senior girls' lunch table in the busy food court, Mr. Steve Tripenfeldas, principal, sits down to find out whether his recommendation impacted senior Courtney Mambourg's scholarship application.

**Mrs. Shonna Siegers:** Earth Science
**Mr. Mike Smith:** Athletic Director
**Mr. Joseph Sokol:** Math
**Mrs. Michelle Stan:** Social worker
**Mr. Corky Stopper:** Non-educational Aide

**Mr. Steven Tripenfeldas:** Principal
**Mrs. Charlene Tsoutsouris:** Spanish, Foreign Language Department chair
**Mr. Donald Ullman:** Chemistry, Academic Competition Team
**Miss Beth Vesa:** Algebra, Head Girls' Basketball, Softball
**Mrs. Charlene Walsh:** Student Services Secretary

**Mrs. Jan Watson:** Westlake Education
**Mrs. Jody Weiss:** English
**Mrs. Marsha Weiss:** Guidance Counselor
**Mr. William Woods:** Band, Marching Band
**Mrs. Mary Yorke:** Composition, Speech, English Literature, English Department chair

## Deep thoughts

As she waits her turn to tee off at the Wicker Park, Kelley Fernandez, junior, concentrates on her upcoming match. Our team showed a tremendous amount of dedication, which was a key to our success," Kelley said. "Winning the first conference tournament was a huge accomplishment. Because of our performances in previous seasons, the win came as a big surprise to us all."

## What's up, man?"

"Ugh—I just bombed a Russell quiz."

"That sucks. Didn't you study last night?"

"No. I was at the Girls' Soccer game. You won't believe this. Amanda Achter scored her 27th goal in overtime. People were going nuts. Not only did she set the school record, but the team won the Conference title."

"Awesome. Too bad I wasn't there. I was up 'till 2 a.m. writing a debate case for Saturday."

"Sucks to be you. I don't—"

"Okay class, quiet down. The bell rang. Clear everything off your desk except for a sheet of paper and something to write with."

"Wait, what? What's goin' on?"

"I hope you finished reading section 4.3 last night. We're taking a quiz...

# are you serious?

*Juggling school with extra-curricular clubs and sports, you struggled with the ups and downs that accompanied everyday life. The shock of a victory over a rival in overtime soon faded into the serious realization of tomorrow's research paper deadline. You sometimes wished that your agenda book included a built-in survival guide with tips on how to succeed in your classes.*

*While some traded gifts at their club's winter parties, the American Sign Language Club's holiday objectives grew serious when they raised $210 and 90 presents for three needy deaf children. You soon realized that your participation in clubs benefited not only you but also the community and your peers. With your hectic lifestyle pulling you in different directions and the workload piling higher and higher, you thought to yourself,* ***"you've got to be kidding, right?"***

### Story of my life

**Carefully folding dish towels** in Nutrition and Wellness, Josh Caddick, junior, and Mike Golembo, senior, discuss their plans for the following weekend. **With her arms raised,** Rachel Gill, junior, practices an activity in her American Sign Language class. **Tucked away** in a practice room, Lenny Weiss, senior, coaches Chetan Chaubal, sophomore, by imitating different accents and voices for Chetan's various characters.

Survival Guide: Enduring the 1,080 hours consumed by school takes survival skills. With so much to do in so little time, students need a basic guide to aid in their academic pursuits

# striking the balance

## With the workload piling higher each day, students struggle to balance their schedules

After hours of slaving over the computer, Euna Choi, junior, finished the design of her *Crier* page early on deadline night. Before she could start the final checks, however, the staff made her shorten the text on her page to allow for the addition of a news brief about a Hummer accident near the school.

"I had to wait five hours just for a news brief when I was already done [with my page]," Euna said. "It was one of those days where I had to study for numerous tests. I was sitting there waiting for it to come in. That was the thorn in my side. I was never going to let that happen again."

Because the day didn't provide enough hours for Euna, she found difficulty balancing homework with her job as the news editor for *Crier*. However, she learned that flexibility and the ability to sacrifice one thing for another would help in controlling everything going on in her life.

"Pretty much, *Crier* was my life apart from school; and it had taken a toll on me," Euna said. "It was one of the hardest extracurricular activities you could take. I lost a lot of sleep. I even had to rely more on common sense and judgment on tests when I didn't have enough time to study. You had to learn to explore the teacher's mind."

With a demanding curriculum that included five Advanced Placement classes at once, senior Warren Santner's work tended to pile up. However, he invited the challenge and didn't worry as much about the grade as he did about learning.

"It was really a balancing act to split up the time the best possible way," Warren said. "It was easier to plan ahead, but motivating yourself before the imminent due date could be quite difficult. Saying it was one thing; doing it was another."

Actively involved in speech, theater, Student Government, Project X, SADD, French Club and church, Genevieve Grdina, sophomore, struggled to keep up with every activity. By trying to stay involved with all her extracurriculars, she either cut back on sleep or slacked off on her schoolwork.

"My teachers seemed to think that their class was the only one we had and the most important one to be focusing on," Genevieve said. "I had to allot time for each, and it was hard because I felt like my future was hinging on some of them."

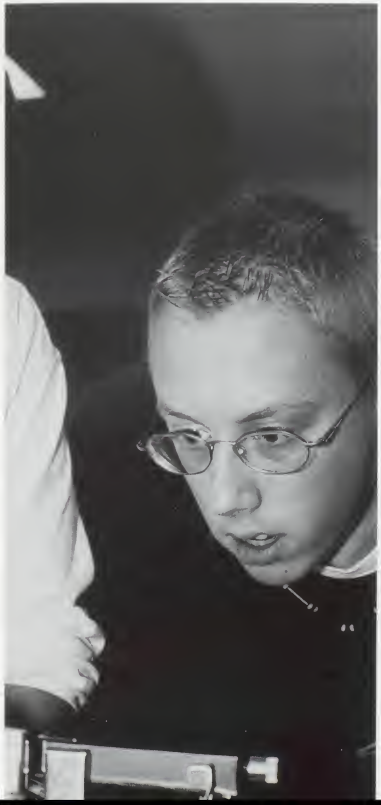
Despite hearing several promises that she would receive enough time to fit the news brief onto her page, Euna never completed the assignment. No one had actually written the brief because of an unavailable, yet vital, source. Even after working hard to finish early, she had wasted an entire night at school when she still had plenty of other homework to complete.

on that note
Organizing her index cards in English, Lauren Cherrier, junior, works on her research paper on the nature of evil. "We had so many cards due at a single time," Lauren said. "Even though the cards helped us write the paper, it was still a lot of hectic work; and a lot of the cards you didn't even use."

weight watchers
With careful measurement, Chris Maloney, sophomore, and Rich Shudick, junior, use the scale in chemistry. "If there wasn't enough time, I would ask for more time and turn [my lab report] in the next day," Chris said. "Or sometimes I'd stay after school and finish."

**fast lane**
After lunch Val Myszak, senior, and Jessica Solis, junior, run to English. "I was always late," Jessica said. "It would've been nice to have more time to socialize so you weren't in a rush all the time. I could've talked to people to see what was going on."

**map quest**
On a map of the U.S., sophomores Valerie Umlauf and Amy Heaney identify major cities and topographical features. "Most of the time we felt rushed," Valerie said. "He gave us a lot to do. It used up most of my homework time, basically."



**crunch time**
Gathered at the computer, Kersten Kelly, junior, listens to Payal Keshvani, senior, explain the design of a student life page of the yearbook during deadline week. "Deadline nights were always terrible because we had a lot of work to finish and make perfect; and we also had to balance that with all our other homework," Payal said.

# conflict of interests

After finding out you need a partner for a presentation in Theater Arts, you realize that your busy agenda will conflict with some of your classmates' schedules. To decide who you can work with after school, figure out whose activities conflict with yours. Based on the clues given, determine who attends which activity on which day. Place a "●" in the box for yes and an "X" in the box for no. (On the chart each person participates in only one activity on one day this week. After figuring out an answer, cross out the rest of the row, eventually filling in all the spaces).

| | Amnesty Int. | Speech | Work | SADD | Sax lesson | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Neerja Prasad, sophomore | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jill Young, junior | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gordana Radmilovic, sophomore | | | | | | | | | | |
| Matt Westerlund, freshman | | | | | | | | | | |
| Robbie Collins, senior | | | | | | | | | | |
| Monday | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tuesday | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wednesday | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thursday | | | | | | | | | | |
| Friday | | | | | | | | | | |

**Clues:**
1. Neerja has an activity on Monday, but she doesn't go to a saxophone lesson.
2. The student with a job at Stardust Bowl's pizza kitchen works on Wednesday.
3. Speech council members attend meetings on Friday, but Robbie doesn't go.
4. SADD (which Matt participates in) occurs the day after Gordana's activity.

# back to basics

## Students need basic essentials to help them get through their strenuous day

After realizing he left his calculator at home, Mack Rawden, sophomore, started to panic. As Mr. Steve Moell, math teacher, started passing out the Algebra 2 test, Mack brainstormed for ideas on what he could do to somehow get around not having his calculator to use during the test.

"Of all the days to forget my calculator, I forgot it on the day of a test," Mack said. "Since I didn't have it, the test took me almost twice as long as all the other students because I had to do all the math problems by hand and then recheck them by hand, which added onto my time."

Every class required essential supplies. Forgetting a calculator on the day of a test made that class period the worst hour of math during the whole year, according to Mack.

Students not only broke out their calculators during math classes, but also during science classes like physics.

"Since second semester I only went to school for half the day and took only genetics, economics and physics, every class I had required a calculator," Jessica Ruiz, senior, said. "Having one made my day a lot easier."

Aside from the TI-86, other electronic devices proved essential to some students. In order to keep organized, some chose palm pilots over the typical agenda book or daily planner.

"I could never leave home without my palm pilot," Elise Eldert, junior, said. "It served more than one function for me. First of all, it kept me organized. And [second of all], the fact that it had games made it even more useful."

Others valued more basic things. Some couldn't survive without items such as packets of Kleenex, backpacks and water bottles. Some girls couldn't survive without their purses, which turned into more than just an accessory.

"I carried everything that I could possibly need in my purse," Krissy Herbeck, junior, said. "It got to the point that I needed my purse every day, or I would feel like I had forgotten something and would worry about it all day."

Since boys didn't need as many accessories as girls did, they carried their essential items in their pockets. Toshiro Toyama, junior, couldn't go a day without his jar of Carmex.

"The one thing I always needed everyday was Carmex," Toshiro said. "I hated having dry lips; and if I ever forgot it, I would get so frustrated that I couldn't concentrate on my school work and only thought about how much I needed some Carmex. That feeling was definitely not pleasant."

As Mack turned in his test, he realized the value of his calculator. He vowed to himself that he would always carry it inside his backpack wherever he went.

Tip # 1
Pack your survival kit into your backpack, your purse or even your pocket

### hands on approach

To aid in teaching the class the conjugation of verbs, John Jamicich, senior, uses the Smartboard, one of the school's newest technological additions. Students preferred using the touch-screen board over regular tranparencies because of its easy-to-use functions, according to John.

### music man

While listening to his portable CD player, Shawn Pizzuto, sophomore, helps Joe Gajewski, freshman, with his research. "Listening to music helped me get away from class-related things; and since I was allowed to listen to my CDs in the library, I always did," Shawn said.

# bare necessities

To survive the day, students bring essential things to help them along

Anna Kretz, senior

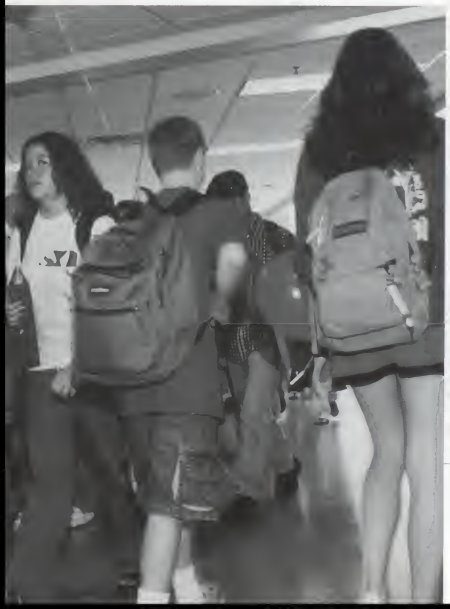
5 A Nalgene water bottle filled with liquid of choice (usually water)

4 That seemingly bottomless purse that many girls kept their lives in

3 The student ID, which conveniently transformed from the lunch card to the library/AUP card, depending on the desired use at the time

2 A portable CD player containing the latest Dave Matthews Band CD

1 The 20 oz. gulp of Mountain Dew, which added a hefty dosage of caffeine each night



### heavy load

Slinging their backpacks over their shoulders, sophomores Erica Stout, Ashley Dudzik and Nicole Castor make their way down the hall. "I had no time to stop at my locker, so a backpack was necessary," Erica said.

### take a number

In order to reschedule her classes, Cristina Benavente, sophomore, talks to Mrs. Violet Zudock, guidance secretary, to make an appointment with her counselor. "I always left guidance in so much of a better mood because they explained everything to me and calmed me down," Cristina said.

### map maker

Using her calculator in the library, Amanda Green, sophomore, totals the distance between two cities. Students found uses for their calculators in classes outside of math.

# get the upperhand

## Balancing homework with other activities, students discover value of organization

flipping through every notebook in her backpack, Claire Robertson, junior, considered calling a friend for some needed information. She couldn't find the page of English notes she scribbled down in class earlier that day.

"I found myself taking notes in random notebooks, and it was hard for me to find certain pieces of information," Claire said. "Sometimes it was easier just to use whatever sources that I could find in a hurry at that moment."

Claire glanced around at the materials she scattered about the room and realized that her organization lacked consistency. More time consuming subjects took priority, and Claire neglected to put all of her subjects in order.

"I put everything in unorganized positions, but that worked for me," Claire said. "I suppose that if I ever had to take an open-note test, however, I was out of luck."

Tip #2
Discover your own study style from stacking your binders onto locker shelves to tracking your homework in your agenda book

Finding organization helped Abe Najamuddin, sophomore, do well in such a position. For an open-note test in Zoology, he prepared by assuring himself that he could easily find important pages in his notebook.

"While the other students were unprepared, I didn't need to sweat it," Abe said. "I took good notes, got organized and ended up receiving an 'A' on the exam."

He took the example of his mother, who ran her own clinic and often came home with paperwork to set in order. She taught him that life ran smoothly with an organized system.

"By her example I grew up to realize that putting things in order were important," Abe said. "It worked because the second you needed something, you could easily find it without having to go through any hassle."

Abe used his agenda book to his advantage. He included all of his homework and plans for the week so that he could refer to it while completing his assignments.

Aside from an orderly agenda book, Abe also kept an orderly locker. Most students, however, put in little effort to organize their locker in the short minutes they had to spare between classes. Mike McIntyre, freshman, admitted to giving up on organizing his locker after the first six weeks of school.

"I had a lot of loose worksheets in my locker that were from middle school," Mike said. "I used a lot of the same folders from last year, and some of them I didn't have time to clean out all the way. I'd reach in my backpack to get an English assignment out, and find one I hadn't seen since 8th grade."

After nearly twenty minutes of searching, Claire found her English notes to begin working on her paper. She then realized that she needed to find a sharpened pencil and so began another elongated search through her bag.

get it together
As she flips through her binder, Morgan Geberin, sophomore, places her notes in order. "I was pretty good about organization because it helped me get my work done faster," Morgan said.

close at hand
With her to-do list written on her hand, Anna Borgo, senior, scoops up a cupful of ice cream. "I figured that since I always lost everything, the only way that I could remember needed information was to write it on myself," Anna said.

story time
Ready to read her Creative Writing children's story, Katie Schlesinger, senior, sits around a group of elementary school children. "It took a lot of organization ahead of time to look professional," Katie said.

# all locked up

From chaos to order, students store their lives in a locker

**Match the locker to its owner**

"At the beginning of the year, I shared the locker with my sister and her boyfriend. It got too crowded, so we kicked him out. We placed a shelf inside the locker; but when we placed books on it, it just all fell apart. It only held the weight of a piece of paper."
*Brooke Kozlowski, freshman*

"I was usually really organized. But when [Poms] competition rolled around, I didn't make time to clean my locker because I was always in a rush. It got chaotic and difficult to find things in the mess."
*Lea Kilibarda, sophomore*

"I just kept things simple and organized. It wasn't a major part of school. It was just a place to keep my books, and I didn't feel the need to express my identity through my locker because no one really saw it anyway."
*Ryan Szanyi, junior*

a.

b.

c.

Answers: a. Ryan, b. Lea, c. Brooke

helping hand
In the bookstore, Mr. Lewis, business teacher, offers Nick Stone, senior, assistance in organizing paperwork. "We were always making sure that our files were in order," Nick said. "It would add to the stress if we couldn't find something."

# frame of mind

## Students discover their favorite studying techniques to succeed in a class

News of her biology final hit Sarah Grabarczyk, freshman, hard. She found herself overwhelmed with the amount of material the test would cover and worried about receiving a good final grade. Sarah went in search for a sufficient study method to help her prepare for the in-depth final.

After asking friends for advice, she decided on studying with her friends. A week before the exam, Sarah and her friends met at the library after school ready to go over the information.

"Study groups helped because you could be comfortable with your friends and study at the same time," Sarah said. "You were also in a group, so most likely at least one person would understand something that another was having trouble with."

Other students faced with tough exams found alternative studying techniques helpful. Josh Levin, senior, preferred to study on his own. He concentrated on the information several nights prior to an exam in order to memorize the material.

"This year I started studying a few nights before a test, and I tried to soak up a lot of that information first," Josh said. "Then the night before, I reread anything that I was still having trouble remembering or understanding. If I put a lot of effort into studying, it made me feel accomplished; and I could reward myself later. Sometimes I also used note cards to help me out."

Tip #3
Unlock the mystery of the class by rehearsing with flashcards or devising tricks with words

Note cards also benefited Becky Sons, sophomore, when she reviewed her vocabulary words for English class. Like Sarah, Becky feared a difficult final exam and prepared herself by spending time using her favorite studying method.

"I quizzed myself using the note cards I'd made every night for a week before that exam," Becky said. "My grandma also helped me. When I told her that I was ready, she quizzed me; and if I couldn't remember the words, I had to go back and study them over and over until I did."

When she needed extra help, Becky also went to West Lake teacher Mr. Brent Barton's room for tutoring after school. She liked his method of teaching and learned in an exclusive setting.

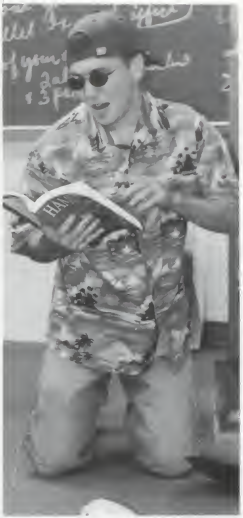
"Mr. Barton went through math problems at a pace that I could understand," Becky said. "I could ask him about problems I'd gotten wrong during the class period and it was easier to follow along with his examples when the rest of the class wasn't there to act as a distraction to me."

After tutoring and note card usage, Becky felt ready to take on any tests. By gaining knowledge, she also gained the confidence to do well in her class and to realize that repeating the information forced her memorize it.

Sarah found herself rereading her biology book a few extra times over as well. After soaking in information about homogenous mixtures and white blood cells, Sarah retained a great deal of information that proved beneficial on her final. After receiving a good grade, she thanked her friends for their study help, and they vowed to help each other out again.

**get the picture**
Checking their negatives, sophomores Alexandra Ruich and Jessica Arens choose which pictures to print. "I made sure that the pictures that I printed were ones that I could be really proud of," Alexandra said.

**down and dirty**
With his head in the script, Ian Holloway, senior, re-enacts Act V of *Hamlet* in his "Hawaii" rendition. Adding their own spin to Shakespeare's classic helped to impress Mrs. Mary Yorke, English teacher.



**access denied**
Censoring the *Chicago Tribune* in journalism class, sophomores Ashley De Vries and Jessica Pleitner choose which articles they want to exclude. Exploring freedom of the press, students acted as dictators to limit public access to information.

**study hall**
With his materials nearby, Danny Hmurovic, freshman, studies for a math test. "Everyone was talking in the classroom, so studying out in the hallway allowed me to concentrate better," Danny said. "I liked working on my schoolwork at my own pace."

Looking back on their high school achievements, students dish out their secrets to success

# words of wisdom

**What is the best piece of advice that you would give someone who worried about doing well in a class?**

"You had to get a lot of sleep, eat a good and balanced breakfast, and make sure that you drank a lot of coffee so that you are awake for class."
*Mike McCullough, senior*

"Before taking a tough test, make sure you read over all of the worksheets you've done in the class. Usually test questions were right off of them."
*Taylor Hopkins, sophomore*

"You should have been nice to all of your teachers so that if you ever had to turn in a late assignment, they'd give you the benefit of the doubt."
*Natalie Culp, freshman*

"You couldn't procrastinate your work in high school. If you didn't get everything done when it was assigned, it would ultimately hurt you."
*Billy Evans, junior*

**buddy session**
After school Connie Kuo, senior, tutors Teddy Horowitz, sophomore, in chemistry. "Tutoring seemed to help because of the one-on-one sessions," Connie said.

# take a crack at it

**While safety precautions often save projects, equipment and supplies, the inevitable accident happens. Here teachers share some of their cracked figures.**

**3** flats cracked in stagecraft

**144** broken test tubes

**52** contaminated petri dishes thrown-away

**2** ceramic pots explode in the kiln

keys to success

Huddled around the answer key taped to the cabinets, seniors Ryan Reuth, Nick Vrabel, Alex Feldman, and John Jamicich grade Advanced Placement Physics exams. "I learned a lot about what the graders were looking for and even to write random information to possibly get one or two points when I had no idea what the problem was asking," Ryan said.

between the lines

Scurrying to finish, seniors Kristi Skrundz, Dominique Mercier, and Melissa Boeckman focus on remembering all the answers to their World Literature tests. "I usually tried to focus [on the test] and not think about anything else," Kristi said. "If I didn't focus, I stopped taking the test; and by the end of the hour, I rushed to finish."

precision incision

Scrunching their faces, Liz Hinkleman, junior, and Diana Bozovic, senior, scrutinize science teacher Mr. John Edington's dissection of the frog. "It was interesting to look [at the] frog, but the gloves helped me," Liz said. "I felt cleaner; I knew I was touching something dead. I was thankful that it was disinfected."

inside scoop

Handing over her measured flour, sophomores Morgan Geberin and Jessica Gorman mix ingredients. "Following the [recipe] was important," Morgan said. "One time our group added baking soda instead of baking powder, and the product we were making [rose] even though it wasn't supposed to."

water works

Carefully watching every drop that drips into her cup, Manini Gupta, sophomore, measures out water for a Chemistry lab. "It was really important for all of your data to be precise because one wrong calculation could throw off your entire experiment," Manini said. "Besides, it was better to be safe than sorry."

# playing it safe

## From wearing goggles to double-checking work, students steer clear of mistakes

After adding the finishing touches to their hydrogen production model in Advanced Placement Chemistry, partners Alex Cheng and Brandon Thompson, seniors, decided to add one last part to the experiment. Not able to pass up the opportunity, they attempted to ignite the hydrogen. After previously grumbling that the labs required goggles, both boys had to shield their eyes when the pressure in the beaker built up and exploded, sending small shards of glass everywhere.

"I used to always complain about how uncomfortable goggles were," Alex said. "I didn't realize I wasn't wearing goggles that day until after the shards flew all over the room. I never complained about wearing goggles after that."

Accidents forced students to realize that every answer, experiment, or assignment needed close inspection to avoid mistakes. As Alex learned to wear his goggles to avoid serious injury to his eyes, Katie Daniels, junior, learned to double-check her pre-calculus class work to avoid injury to her grade.

"My stupid little mistakes when I was in a hurry and not paying attention were from not double-checking my work," Katie said. "Writing a number wrong could change an answer completely in pre-calculus because it was important to use the right terms. The whole class was based on preciseness."

That idea of preciseness carried itself over from the Math and Science Departments to even the more liberal classes such as art and ceramics. For Elise Miller, sophomore, ceramics required just as much thought and thoroughness as any lab experiment or algebra problem.

"We would hit the clay on the table and throw water on it to make sure the air bubbles popped," Elise said. "Some people would make it too thick and would be afraid it would burst because they made it wrong. But I wasn't afraid of it bursting."

However, no matter how cautiously a student molded his clay, an inevitable bubble burst his day. Double-checking tests or wearing goggles on lab days could not allow students to escape daily disasters. Zach Holobowski, senior, experienced the pain of those missed mistakes on his drafting assignments.

"The problem with the drafting class was the absolute need for individualized attention," Zach said. "If my corners on my graphs weren't exactly right, Mr. Davidson would circle my corner and dock me 20%. I had to print out my graphs and examine them to make sure my corners were right because the computer [screen] wasn't good enough."

Disasters from a 20% reduction on assignments to molded ceramic pots bursting in the kiln characterized the day to day problems students faced if they didn't take precautions while they worked on their assignments like chemistry experiments and drafting activities. For Alex and Brandon, strapping on goggles now topped their list of things to do before they stepped into any laboratory, especially if they wan-ted to escape small pieces of glass sailing through the air.

Tip #4
To prevent disasters, keep a close eye on the details

# group ranking

Discover if you rank as the leader or the slacker for when tackling the next group project.

Someone must write for the group. You...

A. volunteer since no one else will probably want to.
B. claim you have unreadable handwriting.
C. insist on your illiteracy.

When your group calls and wants to get together to work, you...

A. tell your group to come and work on it anytime.
B. explain that you'll try to fit it into your schedule and don't show up until five hours later.
C. check the caller ID and don't answer the phone.

After you find out the grade, your group responds by saying...

A. "What grade did you get us?" because they are willing to admit you practically completed the whole assignment.
B. "Why weren't you on time again the other night? We could have done better with more help from you.
C. nothing but a cold stare since you never put forth any effort.

Mostly A's- As head of the pack, consider yourself a leader and dedicated worker. You take charge of your group to make sure incompetence doesn't bring down your grade.

Mostly B's- You like to keep your distance from the rest of the group. You don't want total involvement, but you don't have a choice.

Mostly C's- When it comes to group projects, you only go as far as telling the other members your name. By that time they have already realized they can't count on your help because of your notorious reputation for slacking off.

### lend a hand

Discussing their composition story for Mrs. Sandra Madsen's English Composition class, seniors Jenny Schmelzer and Joe Ramirez write out the parts of their paper. "I guess I was more of a verbal person," Joe said. "So when I got to talk, it really got me going creatively."

### compute the facts

Working on completing her poetry project, Susan Valand, junior, receives assistance from Pete Ciric, junior. Susan considered looking for information a tedious process. "There was a lot information to browse through, and Pete had decided to help me," Susan said.

### map it out

While sketching out a mind map in Mr. Mike Coil's biology class, freshmen Amiee Maruszczak and Stephanie Banach finish their group assignment. Amiee accepted the job of drawing because she knew she could handle the task. "When you worked in groups, you got to be with other people and see if they knew something that could have helped you out," Aimee said.

### puck shot

While playing floor hockey in gym, Ryan Burke, freshman, and Scott Goodwin, freshman, com-pete for the ball. Ryan, who also played for an extra-curricular ice hockey team, found it more difficult to play in the gym. "In real hockey you used your speed on the ice to get past someone," Ryan said. "In gym class I found I had to use more teamwork."

### experimental reaction

Adding chemicals, sophomores Harjot Singh and Brian Wujek observe a reaction during their chemistry lab. "We shared the work," Brian said. "If you didn't know what you were doing, you always had someone to turn to for help."

# joining forces

## Two heads prove better than one when it comes to finishing projects or mastering concepts

Following through on her Theater Arts group assignment, Kim Markovich, sophomore, met with five other classmates on a Saturday afternoon. After feeling a little apprehensive when finding out she couldn't chose her group, she worried if everyone in her group would fulfil their obligation to the project and cooperate to work together.

"After that [project] I realized that getting to pick your own group was not always best," Kim said. "I remembered how sometimes I ended up not getting to work for the first four hours because I was with my friends."

By working with friends, Marinko Repac, freshman, knew that he could trust them to get their work done and not have to worry about working with someone who wouldn't work as a helpful member of the group or do his full share. He didn't get distracted by working with friends.

"In biology I got stuck working on a mind map with a group where everyone said they couldn't draw," Marinko said. "I ended up doing most of the drawing, which took a lot of my hard work, while they pretty much just sat there."

Working with a group that didn't understand what to do or didn't really care could cause quite a nuisance for Pat Hansen, junior. In Pat's Algebra 2 class, he occasionally got paired up with someone who didn't understand the problems on a worksheet. He had to assume the responsibility of teaching it to the other members although they may not have had any previous knowledge of the mathematical concept.

"When we worked in groups for math, I would sometimes get stuck with someone who didn't really know what they were doing," Pat said. "You burned time by teaching it to them; and the teacher expected you to get it done before the end of class, or it affected your grade."

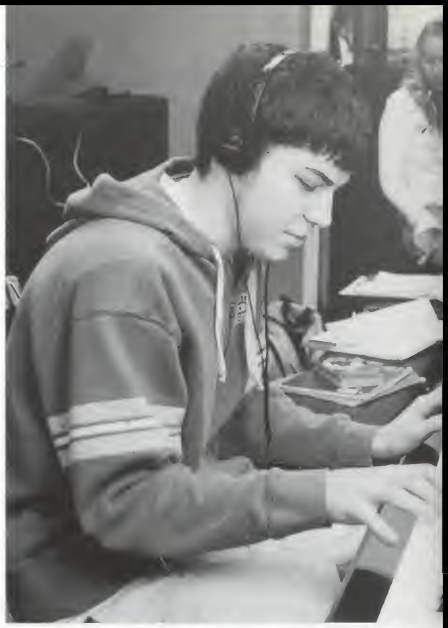
After Kim and her group finally found a time they could all meet, she discovered that they didn't seem as helpless as she had anticipated originally. Their dramatic skit on traveling back in time came together after everyone included their different ideas and opinions, according to Kim.

"It turned out to be really fun," Kim said. "Some of the people in my group were just acquaintances to begin with. But because of the project, I got to spend time with them outside of school and got to know them better."

By brainstorming creatively the group came up with costumes from different time periods for everyone to wear. Kim walked out of class after her group's presentation knowing she and the other members had successfully completed the project and had developed long-lasting friendships along the way.

Tip #5
Don't let the work bog you down, share the load

key to success
Reading the musical notes, Chad Samara, senior, tests sounds on the keyboard while learning musical skills. "I got a good foundation for the future to go into record producing in college," Chad said.



act your age
With her tongue out, Becka Stork, freshman, re-enacts a scene from *Inherit the Wind* in English class. Classes used drama to reinforce the literature covered. "I'm a very dramatic person, and I loved bringing the story to life," Becca said.

historical performance
With a speech prepared, seniors Shyam Patel, Raechelle Medellin, and Greg Pottorff participate in a discussion for the We the People class. "I enjoyed speaking and performing in front of people and exercising my speech skills in the classroom," Raechelle said.

Choosing classes according to individual interests, Jackie Schneider keeps her future in mind when electing classes

# draw an interest

**Why did you add demanding classes to your schedule?**

"I wanted a challenge in my curriculum, and knowing that this was the basis for my future, taking easy classes would have wasted my time and effort."

**Why did you prefer classes that used "hands-on" teaching?**

"With 'hands-on,' one could experience the problems and work them out in a lab or in certain situations. It seemed more logical to experiment with problems and find them out by doing them."

**How did classes you took correlate to your interests?**

"My interests decided the classes I chose. I knew that if I didn't take classes that I was interested in, I wouldn't have motivation to do well."

*Jackie Schneider, junior*

all tuned up
Following the notes, Chris Mihalo, junior, and Robbie Collins, senior, play their saxophones in the band. Music provided students with a break from the "normal" class and aided them to practice more with others. "I loved music; and by being in band, I participated in many competitions," Robbie said. "It was more for fun than anything else."

save the last dance
Demonstrating how to perform a traditional French dance, Lauren Mikler, senior, shares her skills with Ashley Troumouliaris, junior, and her French 4 class. "We danced because I wanted to show what I learned in France," Lauren said. "It was a cultural experience to learn about their way of life and the variety of ways they differed."

# hitting the right key

## With their future in mind, students choose classes to to match special interests

Scheduling her classes for next year, Lauren Skibinski, junior, debated over taking a challenging class versus one which didn't require as much work. Focused on her future, she chose Advanced Placement Calculus to provide her schedule with a demanding class to benefit her in the future.

Upcoming seniors focused on courses that colleges looked for when choosing their classes, according to Lauren. She picked classes to prepare for her future engagements in college. By having an idea of subjects she wanted to further explore, she prepared her senior schedule based on those courses and plans and attempted to build the foundation for her future.

"In high school, I tried to make the most of my education by taking classes which challenged my mind," Lauren said. "It was my preparation for my future. College was very serious; and if I got a strong foundation from high school, college would be easy to adapt to in the new environment."

Adjusting to harder classes challenged many freshmen when they entered high school because of the new curriculum. Physical education, although required, provided a break from mind-stressing courses and allowed students to exercise, according to Casey Jedrzejczak, freshman.

"Gym was one of my favorite classes because I was relieved from the pressure of learning schoolwork during the hour," Casey said. "Although the class didn't require books and homework, I learned both mental and physical skills which were necessary. Physical education was equally important, and it was a way to exercise when I usually didn't have time."

For recreational education other electives proved an appropriate scheduling choice for students who enjoyed a particular non-required subject. Pounding a coil pot into a cylindrical shape, Mara Mileusnich, senior, enjoyed working on a Ceramics I project because it created something new.

"Ceramics was special because everyone expressed their personality through art," Mara said. "The more you put into something, the more you got out of it. When making my projects, I remembered that it was as equally important to try my best on this as if it was my homework in any other class. We still learned from a text book, but we got to experiment with what we learned and build with imagination."

Learning played an important role for students who focused on a stern curriculum. By suggesting harder level classes, counselors aided students in fulfilling a promising future with a concrete foundation to ensure their best education.

From hands on activities to late-night cramming, students chose classes based on individual interests. Whether staying up until 4 a.m. finishing a physics project or planning a court case for law, curriculums differed greatly. For Lauren, a challenge in her class schedule helped her build a complete foundation.

Tip #6
Spice up your day with change-of-pace electives

# saved by the bell

To cope with their hectic lives, students find peace of mind in the seven-minute passing period

Immediately after the tornado drill broke the fifth hour silence, eleven Spanish 5 seniors filed out of their classroom. To add flavor to the routinely uneventful drill, the students grabbed several straw sombreros and strolled into the hallway.

Grinning to each other as they slouched down against the lockers, they added flavor to their normally insipid school day. After several years of studying under Mrs. Florencia Stoll, Spanish teacher; a more relaxed atmosphere developed in the classroom, according to Jillian Hmurovic, senior.

"Especially when you were a senior, you bonded more with your teacher, and you weren't as overwhelmed," Jillian said. "Although the class was still demanding, the environment was more comfortable. Teachers understood that students couldn't just go, go, go through an entire school day."

Despite six periods packed with tests and worksheets, students combated the "all work and no play" attitude. By picking up an occasional game of floor hockey or pickle-ball in the Fieldhouse, physical education students benefited from an hour of escape from their tedious school day.

"Gym provided relief because I was able to forget about school and just goof off for just one hour," Niko Culic, freshman, said. "Gym got me to move around more. There was no way I could sit in a desk for six straight hours."

Tip #7
Escape the day's monotony with breaks in the routine

While Niko fought to break the steady stream of inactivity during his day, other students struggled to lead a life filled with too much activity. Junior Becky Triemstra's weekdays often passed without her seeing a single ray of sunlight.

Diving into the frigid pool at 5:15 a.m. for morning practice and drying off at 5:30 p.m. after evening practice, Becky took a break from her demanding schedule by catnapping through lectures in several classes throughout the day.

"It was just one of those times when your head started bobbing up and down," Becky said. "You tried to pay attention, but you just could not. I had to get up at five in the morning, and it just made for long days."

To survive the longest of days, Becky nodded off during class to recuperate from her 12-hour workday. However, students wavered in their search for rest and relaxation. As Jillian walked back into class to eventually return to the reality of school, she did so with a refreshed mentality, ready for the next break in her normal routine.

food for thought
Chowing down on food in Ancient World History, Jenna Candiano, sophomore, and Frank Pukoszek, freshman, celebrate their student teacher's going-away party. "We always played games and never really stuck to the same daily lesson plan," Jenna said. "It gave us a different outlook to the material instead of just lectures."

all in good time
On their way to third hour, Paige Popravak, sophomore, and Mary Rick, freshman, chat in the hall. "I didn't have her in any of my classes first semester, so we made it a habit to see each other in that specific hall every day," Paige said. "It was a part of our daily routine."

In the 420 minutes at school each day, students relish a passing period's 7 minutes in heaven despite crowded hallways and stationary students

# deck the halls

**Which areas in school cause the worst headaches as crowds clog the hallways and students shove their way through?**

### history hallway

"Everyone was always leaving that area, and there was never any flow. You couldn't avoid it. You pretty much waited there or just forced your way through everyone else."

*Joe Soeka, junior*

### outside foods room

"When I came out of algebra, I could barely get out of the room. It got dangerous because there were people going in all different directions stepping all over you."

*Ashley Boyan, freshman*

### fieldhouse entrance

"After school a lot of people hung out and talked. When I was injured and on crutches because of basketball, it was a nightmare because way too many people were in that place."

*Dan Grunewald, sophomore*

### outside the speech room

"Freshmen and sophomores always seemed to form huge clumps and just stood around talking to each other in the middle of the hallway. Why don't these people learn how to walk?"

*Jenny Nelson, senior*

etch-a-sketch
On a field trip to Brookfield Zoo with her AP Art Studio class, Allison Crary, senior, sketches a gesture drawing of a giraffe. Capturing the muscle tone and body position of animals in motion, art students used the absence from school to feed off each other's artistic input. "The purpose was to experience art outside the classroom," Allison said. "While we could have gone to the zoo on our own, there was a lot of merit going with other art students. We fed off each other's ideas; and for just one day, we were allowed to be just artists and not students."

lip service
With her Critical Thinking test completed, Kelly Frank, freshman, carefully applies lip gloss. Students took advantage of the few moments during the day when they could either freshen up or pass out to break up their daily routine.

surprise, surprise
Catching her friend off guard, Gordana Radmilovic, sophomore, ties a bandana onto junior Kathy Pycinska's head. "The element of surprise was a daily must," Kathy said. "You needed something to keep you awake in health class."

# on cruise control

Take this quiz to find out if you think on your feet or panic when dealt a problem

**1. On the due date of your geometry project, you notice you forgot a photo of an obtuse angle. You:**

a. call your friends to see if they have an extra picture that they could give you out of pity.
b. persuade your parents that you've come down with the flu and need to stay home.

**2. As you near the end of your physics final, you notice that you forgot to study the energy chapter and have under 10 minutes left to answer those 20 problems. You:**

on tape

To document every minute of presentation, Alex Cheng, senior, videotapes for Mrs. Mary Yorke, English teacher, to grade when she returned from her week-long absence.

a. flip to the front equation page and start working out all of the 45 equations with hopes that one will work.
b. stare blankly at the paper for a few minutes and decide to cheat off your partner even though you have never cheated before.

**3. As you open your backpack you realize that your composition has suddenly disappeared. You:**

a. call your mom and persuade her to drop it off at school.
b. make up an excuse about how you used it for firewood when you got lost last night after you car broke down in the forest.

**Mostly A's:**
You confront situations with a cool and collected attitude.

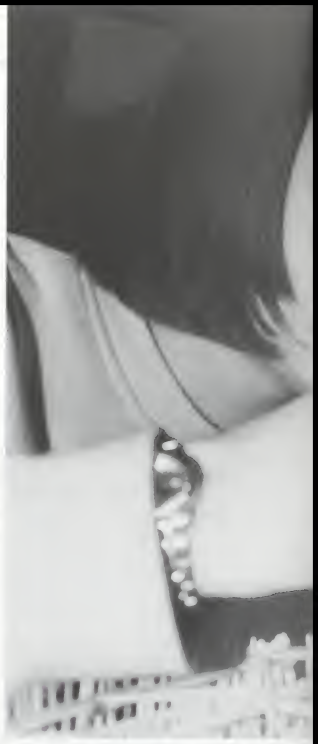
**Mostly B's:**
You start to freak out and sweat profusely whenever a sudden problem arises.

building up

Piecing together her toothpick bridge, Britney Meier, junior, finishes her physics project. "It was a pain because there were so many restrictions," Britney said. "The overall project had so many meticulous details that last minute fixes were definitely needed."

through the branches

Presenting a mock birch tree to her classmates, Stephanie Coulis, junior, explains her project to her English class. "The imperfections of the tree just added to the overall product and presentation and helped our project," Stephanie said.

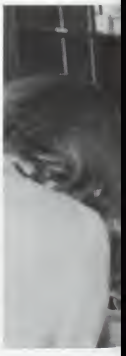


flour power

Cradling her flour baby in her arms, Maureen Leopold, junior, waits for the bell to ring before school. She had to be careful when carrying the doll because if she dropped it and the flour bag broke, she would not receive the points for the project. "I was overprotective and didn't really want others carrying it because I wanted my points and really did not want to wear the 'pregnancy belly' to regain them," Maureen said.

"o" what fun

Playing with Cheerios, juniors Julie Kiekenapp, Elise Eldert and Luo Jia Zheng, learn curve-fitting during pre-calculus with Mrs. Pat Premetz, Math Department Chairperson. "It was a nice break from the regular class routine, especially since this was the week before Thanksgiving break," Elise said. "An added benefit was the fact that we got to eat the food while we worked."



# bridging through gaps

## Students react differently when faced with problems that suddenly evolve

hoping to make it to Mr. Mike Blaze's U.S. History class before the bell rang, Maddie Morley, junior, sprinted down the hallway. Despite her efforts, she failed to arrive on time and took her second tardy for the semester.

Since Mr. Blaze followed the "second tardy means detention" policy, Maddie thought she deserved the inevitable detention; however, a pleasant surprise awaited. Mr. Blaze informed her that with a first detention, she had the option of bringing in a box of Kleenex instead of serving her punishment.

"I was coming all the way from Miss [Val] Pflum's precalculus class and had to stop at both my North and South lockers," Maddie said. "I was so relieved when he said I could bring in a box of Kleenex instead of taking the detention."

Since procrastinating proved easier for some, students tended to take the easy way out by putting off assignments, projects and studying for tests at the last minute. If a student failed to study for a test, bad grades accumulated and had a lasting effect, according to Kyle Martinez, senior.

"I thought that some of Mrs. [Kristie] Mendoza's tests would be easier than they really were, but I was definitely wrong on more than one occasion," Kyle said. "I figured I didn't really have to study, so I didn't; and those couple of bad grades brought my overall grade down."

However, Mrs. Mendoza, math teacher, handed out five extra credit passes worth one point each at the beginning of the semester. With these five extra points, Kyle hoped to save his grade and avoid conflict when his report card got home.

"I didn't need that many extra points," Kyle said. "My grade had slipped to a high 'B+,' but I just worried if those five points would be enough. I was so happy when I found out that I would end up getting an 'A,'" Kyle said. "Even though the passes were only worth a few points, they were just what I needed to give my grade a boost."

Even when planning ahead of time, things didn't always go as scheduled. For students who put off Summer Reading until the last minute, Sparknotes proved a welcome savior.

"I chose to read *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* for Summer Reading," Jennifer McCreight, freshman said. "It was a long book, and I finished it in time; but there was no way that I was going to be able to reread the sections that I didn't understand, so I decided to read Sparknotes. Had I not done that, I would not have done as well as I did on the test."

Remembering to bring in a box of Puff's Plus Kleenex the following day, Maddie ended up avoiding a detention. That afternoon she went shopping at Southlake Mall instead of wasting time by having to spend an extra 45 minutes at school to serve the detention.

Tip #8
Consider inventive solutions to break free from sticky situations

Staring down at her blank paper, Joanna Biestek, freshman, ruffled through the mounds of papers strewn all over her bed. She hunted for help with her geometry proof on similar triangles, but no example showed her how to get past step one.

Suddenly remembering that her cousin, sophomoreAnna Rak had done the same math problems the year before, she sprinted into the other side of their adjoining house, pleading for Anna's help with the baffling problem.

"Anna was a math wizard," Joanna said. "I always asked her for help because I knew that she would explain it the best to me. I was sure that she would be right. She used the non-teacher terms so that I could understand better."

Sometimes turning to family didn't work. When parents and siblings didn't have the answers to his questions and his friends couldn't spare a minute to assist him, Mike Strain, junior, had to search elsewhere for help.

"Whenever I had problems in Spanish with preterite and imperfect, I always went to Mrs. [Florencia] Stoll for help, mainly during contact time," Mike said. "The grades were based on tests, and I messed up on little things. I always turned to her because she was always able to help me out."

However, when the clock in the hall struck midnight and students could not call teachers, the panic set in. The search began for the solution to that last Algebra 2 equation or the answers to an English *A Separate Peace* worksheet. For Kelly Markovich, senior, a problem arose from trying to find a reliable friend late at night to point out the right path.

"Whenever I had to call someone, I always thought to myself, 'I'm just starting my assignment and have no clue what to do. Do I wait until the morning when I might not have time to finish, or do I call someone and attempt to learn it now?'" Kelly said. "I just decided to call them. My friends never minded, but their parents always seemed to care."

Regardless of the source of the instruction, help strayed far from a one-sided deal. As Joanna experienced first-hand, help became more of a give-and-take relationship.

After Anna helped her plot out all of the steps to her similar triangles geometry proof, Joanna attempted to run back to her own house to finish the rest of her homework. But even before she could take one step outside the door, Anna whipped out her informative speech on alcoholism and sat Joanna down to listen and critique. Feeling stuck, Joanna didn't give much of a struggle, knowing she had to pay a price for barging in on Anna and pleading for help on her math homework.

Tip #9
Realize your limitations and seek help so you don't suffer alone

# hit or miss

From reviewing for tests with Sparknotes to tracking down a teacher, students seek aid to help understand material

swat team
Scanning the chalkboard, Ian Vera, freshman, and sophomores Kelly Shaw and Bennis Pavisian, hunt for the correct Spanish word to slap with their flyswatters. Spanish 2 played the flyswatter game in order to review for vocabulary tests.

lady in waiting
With arm raised, Kelly Simmons, sophomore, waits for Mrs. Jody Weiss, English teacher, to finish answering the questions of another student. Kelly needed Mrs. Weiss's help with the research on the computer. Students turned to teachers for help when their peers didn't have the answers.

quick peek
In order to find the answer to a Spanish review question on the computer, Milka Bastaic, freshman, peeks at her book. Students used games and even flashcards to help review for Spanish vocabulary tests. "Practicing on the games went over what was going to be on the test," Milka said. "I then knew what was on it, and I did better on the test."

foreign exchange
Aiding Swedish exchange student Chris Hansson, junior, Mr. Jim McNabney, English teacher, helps him form a thesis statement for his research paper. "Things didn't translate from Swedish to English well," Mr. Mcnabney, said. "So we worked together to make sure he was communicating things accurately."

table for two
While her tutoree Greg Gier, sophomore, searches for the answer to a question on his Spanish worksheet, Alyssa Hathaway, senior, stands by ready to aid him in finding an answer. "I helped motivate him," Alyssa said. "Without me he wouldn't do his homework. It made me feel good knowing I was there to make a difference."

# first aid

**Got a problem? Go ahead... ask a friend, a teacher, or even consult Sparknotes. Just don't cop out and follow these examples that will come back to bite you in the end.**

1 As your mom tries to explain comma rules, you occasionally nod your head to hide your brilliant plan to con her into finishing your homework for you.

2 While devouring tortilla chips and dip, you gossip about your teachers and their weird quirks as your study group abandons the initial plan of actually reviewing for the test. You just assume that memorization of historical dates can get you that much-deserved "A."

3 Although the teacher handed out *Lord of the Flies* two weeks ago, you spend your seven-minute passing period before the test printing out and reading Sparknotes. As your teacher hands out an essay test, you realize that all you grasped in those seven minutes amounted to the name of the author.

4 Strolling into your French teacher's room during Contact Time, you yank out a worksheet that you didn't understand. When your teacher tells you that she will give you the correct conjugations after you complete the activity, you scoff at her wondering why she didn't just hand over the answer key. You just gave up 20 minutes of your gossip time to get help.

5 Neglecting to study for every test in your physics class, you work hard to complete the 5 point extra-credit paper on Galileo assuming that after your teacher reads your thought-provoking paper, he will miraculously raise your grade from a "C" to an "A."

# in for the long run

*Striving to improve, Boys' Cross Country falls short of Conference expectations*

**rounding cheers**
**Veering around the corner,** Danny White, freshman, gains sight of the crowd. White achieved recognition with the Most Valuable Player Award at the Fall Sports Banquet. "When the crowds cheered and you heard your name being called, it made you want to run faster," White said. **While focused on the** race, Robbie Collins (513), senior, and Billy Lewis (520), junior, stride toward the finish line. Although they competed individually, they still viewed meets as a team effort. "It was fun to be in a sport with people you got along with, not just in a class but as part of a team," Collins said.

Stopping to run around the sewage pipes separating Highland and Munster, the boys enjoyed a new break from their usual practice route. They soon argued over what to name their new course.

Due to junior Billy Lewis' comical rendition of "Double Vision" by the band Foreigner, half the team wanted to name the course after the two pipes that crossed the Hart ditch.

But despite Lewis' comedy act, some still wanted to call the route by its original name, "Pipes Squared." One runner still felt disappointed his teammates wanted to alter it.

With a slim margin of just one vote, Lewis' side won the discussion. Officially settling the dispute, the team stretched as Lewis sang his song.

### Beyond words

As the team gathered in a huddle before the conference race, they listened to words of encouragement from co-captain Don Yamtich, junior.

"It got the team pumped up before the meet," Yamtich said. "Sometimes it was all mental and came down to who was tougher, not better."

Although many set their best times during the meet, the team didn't receive the scores they needed to meet their goal of winning.

"Our times were collectively some of the best we'd ever had, but the other teams were just that much better," Dustin Moriarty, senior, said.

Despite ending their conference season, the team still found a silver lining in the whole situation. On the way home from the meet, Yamtich said he felt disappointed about how the team placed but not how they performed.

### Role model

Struggling to keep up with Yamtich's lead, Danny White, freshman, fought his fatigue as he charged up the rugged sand trails at the Indiana Dunes.

"The day we went to the beach tired me out more than anything," White said.

White had never trained on the Dunes' steep sandhills before. To distract himself from the pain, White ran with thoughts of his older brother, Richie White, '02.

**BELIEVE IT**

Five varsity runners earn All Conference honors

White became one of the team's top runners with support from his brother, who told him not to sacrifice his gift. With the words echoing through his mind, White believed that running flowed through his veins.

**pure stamina**
About to pass Steve Smith (481), Lowell, co-captain Don Yamtich (528), junior, picks up the pace. He received awards for Pride, Hustle and Desire and Most Valuable Player. "I tried not to slow down and let any pain or agony stop me from running," Yamtich said.

**cool down**
After the Highland Invite, co-captain Brett Stewart, senior, sits down to catch his breath. Usually the team didn't do well at the Invite, according to Stewart, however, with their 4th place finish, the boys did better than in previous years. "It was a hard race and a hot day, but we all pulled together, and many people received their best times," Stewart said.

## pain distractions

While running at Conference, Dustin Moriarty, senior, replays a song in his head that he heard before the race. Distractions allowed him to put aside the struggle. "People didn't like to focus on bad things," Moriarty said. "When you were in pain, you wanted to put your mind on something else."

## BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY

| | |
|---|---|
| Crown Point, Lake Central, EC Central, Griffith | 2nd |
| Gavit Invite | 2nd |
| Crown Point, Gavit, Hanover Central, Highland, Lowell | 3rd |
| Thorton Fractional South Invite | 4th |
| **Bishop Noll, Clark** | **10th** |
| Lowell, Calumet, Gavit | **1st** |
| **Gavit, Griffith** | 2nd |
| Lowell Invite | **1st** |
| Highland Invite | 2nd |
| Kankakee Valley Invite | 5th |
| Conference | 4th |
| Sectionals | 4th |
| Regionals | 3rd |
| | 7th |
| **All Conference** | |
| Danny White | |
| Don Yamtich | |
| Billy Lewis | |
| Dustin Moriarty | |
| Brett Stewart | |
| | **66-33** |
| Conference | **9-2** |

## potential energy

Amid a pack of runners at the JV Conference meet, Jeff Newcomb (522), senior, paces himself. The team anticipated finishing higher than third at Conference. "It was hard we didn't meet up to our coach's expectations, but as a team we were closer than ever," Newcomb said.

**Boys' Cross Country** *(front row)* Billy Lewis, Murad Omery, Danny White, Jeff Newcomb, Alex Sakelaris *(back row)* Alex Cheng, Dustin Moriarty, Robbie Collins, Don Yamtich, Brett Stewart, Coach Aaron Brown

# blaze new trails

*Finishing their season as champs, Girls' Cross Country finds new glory*

**whisper in the woods**
Secretly, Suzy **Quasny, junior**, and Nikki Williamson, senior, trade strategies. "We talked about who we were up against and who to watch out for," Williamson said. **With her mind set**, co-captain Amanda Shike, junior, keeps up with the leading pack. "Some people thought about the pain and quitting," Shike said. "I concentrated on music when I ran."

**gone with the wind**
Fixated on her strides, co-captain Julia Konopasek, junior, pushes to pass her opponent. "I told myself that I had done this before," Konopasek said. "In practice you ran a lot more mileage then in a race, so you knew that you were capable."

**potty break**
Toilet paper overhead, Justine Bauer, junior, walks towards the woods with juniors Julia Konopasek and Suzy Quasny. "The bathrooms at meets were disgusting," Bauer said. "We always brought our own toilet paper and stood guard for one another while we went to the woods. The other teams saw how close we were after witnessing something like that."

As the final bell echoed through the halls, Jennie Jamicich, freshman, felt anxious for that afternoon's sectional meet. The race included Lake Central, a team she feared for its tough competition.

"It was the most nervous I'd ever been," Jamicich said. "I wasn't sure what was going to happen."

An hour later she boarded the bus next to Christia Bieda, freshman, and found comfort in expressing her plans for the race with her. Jamicich also eased pre-game nervousness by discussing the sport with her father.

"I could always talk to my dad about cross-country," Jamicich said. "My parents and grandparents came to every single meet, and my dad ran to different places on the course to cheer me on when I ran passed him."

Once the team arrived at Riverside Park to begin the race, Jamicich knew she had to get mentally prepared for the meet.

Jamicich overcame her initial nerves and handed in the team's second best time. With help from her perfor-mance, the girls captured the Sectional Championship title.

**Team player**

As the Lowell conference meet grew closer, co-captain Julia Konopasek, junior, gave her teammates some last minute words of encouragement before the race.

"I always told people that it was a mental game," Konopasek said. "You were only in pain for 16 minutes."

The usual pre-game pow-wow gave Konopasek a chance to relive some of the moments she experienced as a freshman. She used the time to develop a relationship with the other girls and shared stories from previous years.

"Amy [Blue, '01] was so sweet," Konopasek said. "I asked her questions even if they were obvious. Now when a freshman asks a question, I laugh and remember what it was like."

As she pushed herself through her most challenging race, Konopasek finished before her set goal, breaking her previous time. She breathed a sigh of exhaustion as her body returned to stability.

**BELIEVE IT**

First Sectional Championship title in the school's Girls' Cross Country history

"I felt like after I did well on a race, all the practice was well worth it and paid off," Konopasek said.

As she congratulated her teammates, she hoped that some of her words of encouragement had helped get them psyched to run.

### end of the line

Pushing herself as she nears the end of the race, Suzy Quasny, junior, crosses the finish line. "I told myself that I had to give it my all," Quasny said. "I didn't want any regrets."

## GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY

| | |
|---|---|
| **Crown Point, Lake Central, EC Central** | **1st** |
| **Gavit Invite** | **1st** |
| **Crown Point, Gavit, Hanover Central** | **1st** |
| TF South Invite | 6th |
| **Bishop Noll, Clark** | **1st** |
| **Lowell, Calumet, Gavit** | **1st** |
| **Gavit, Griffith** | **1st** |
| **Lowell Invite** | **1st** |
| Highland Invite | 4th |
| **Kankakee Invite** | **1st** |
| **Conference** | **1st** |
| **Sectionals** | **1st** |
| Regionals | 2nd |
| Semi-State | 10th |

**All Conference**
Jennie Jamicich
Julia Konopasek
Suzy Quasny
Amanda Shike
Lindsey Steele

| | |
|---|---|
| | **95-18** |
| Conference | **12-0** |

### girl talk

Surrounded by several of her teammates, co-captain Julia Konopasek, junior, listens to advice from Coach Darlene Shike. "On the starting line, she rubbed everyone's shoulders and told us that we could do this and to try our best," Konopasek said.

**Girls' Cross Country** *(front row)* Lindsey Steele, Julia Konopasek, Nikki Williamson, Amanda Shike, Suzy Quasny, Justine Bauer *(second row)* Shivani Sharma, Lucia Rigo, Jennie Jamicich, Heather Haneman, Michelle Potter *(back row)* Coach Darlene Shike, Christia Bieda, Renee Schmitt, Maritza Roque, Ashley DeVries, Shobha Pai

**Varsity Football Team** *(front row)* Joe Skertich, Mike Kalina, Mario Zerngast, Steve Smith, Phil Resler, Mike Helfen, Adam Del Rio *(second row)* Lee Murphy, Tony Calabrese, Jon Pleitner, Tim Daugherty, Dave Watson, Jim Cuban, Chris Herr, Jon Meacham *(third row)* Steve Fandl, Jim Phelan, Toshiro Toyama, Bart Banach, Wally Cirafesi, Josh Caddick, Jon Caddick *(fourth row)* Jason Grunewald, Brian Hayes, Nick Cosme, Mike Lee, Tony Spinosa, Pete Ciric, Mike Penman, John Perkins *(fifth row)* Pat Kunka, David Paliga, Bryan Adams, Kyle Becich, Brent Banach, Brandon Platt, Jordan Barnes, Jon Fisher, Joel Barnes *(sixth row)* Rich Cigler, Prince Kwateng, Yun Tai, Nick Murphy, David Porter, Ryan Dillner, Aaron Pleitner, Joe Dwars, Blake Hunter, Dave Pavkovich *(seventh row)* Mark Balicki, Taylor Hopkins, Tom Grantner, Teddy Horowitz, Thomas Simmons, Brian Rubesha, Trevor Clippert, Zak Boswell *(back row)* Patrick Doherty, Coach Ryan Ridgley, Coach Brian Clark, Coach Bob Shinkan, Coach Leroy Marsh, Coach Tom Largus, Coach Rob McCall, Trainer John Doherty, Michael Doherty

## for the record

To complete a play, Wally Cirafesi (11), junior, passes the ball to Brian Hayes (33), junior. Hayes broke the school record with 188 yards on five carries during that game. "I beat a previous record with 37.3 yards per carry, and it proved that I was definitely a valuable part of the team," Hayes said.

## small talk

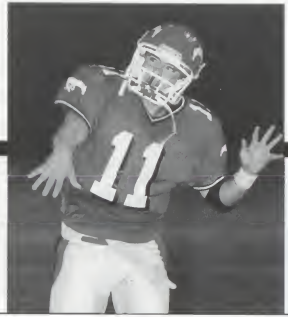
Trying to bring the players to their full potential, Coach Brian Clark, English teacher, consults the team on their next play. "Since it was such a good game, everybody owed the team some congratulations," Coach Clark said. "They played very well, and every time you shut out an opponent like Lowell, it's a great game," Coach Clark said.

## catch up

To keep the Gary Roosevelt opponent from scoring, Tony Calabrese (52), senior, tackles him during the Senior Night game. The team won the Oct. 24 game, 42-21.

**follow threw**

**Getting ready for the** second half of the game, Wally Cirafesi (11), junior, practices throwing during halftime. "It was important to warm up because your muscles got stiff in the locker room," Cirafesi said. **After a tiring quarter**, Tony Spinosa (58), junior, towels off on the sidelines. "Since we played both sides of the ball during the game, we didn't get many breaks. We enjoyed the few breaks that we did get," Spinosa said.



# bad run of luck

*Despite a first round Sectional loss, football finishes achieves winning season*

With the smell of barbecued meat permeating through the air, the football team gathered in senior Mario Zerngast's backyard the night before their game against Gavit. As the boys dug in, they fired up and discussed plays for the following night.

Every Thursday night the team gathered at one of the senior players' houses to watch and discuss the Channel 56 "Prep Football Report."

"We would all go to somebody's house; and his parents would get food like pasta, pizza, ribs, or sausage," Wally Cirafesi, junior, said. "It all depended on what they wanted to do, but there was always a lot of food and lots of guys."

With enough food to feed 40 players and a coach, the team got psyched up for the upcoming game. After they filled up on food and left, they felt more confident, ready and motivated to face their opponent the following night.

**carried away**

After catching a pass, Nick Cosme (34), junior, runs toward the end zone. Cosme rushed 131 yards on 11 carries during the Griffith game. "We were psyched up for the game, and played well," Cosme said. "The loss came as a surprise especially because we were so confident going in."

**BELIEVE IT**

Finishing off his second varsity season, Wally Cirafesi only gives up two interceptions.

**Breaking through**

Lined up to field Hammond High's punt early in the second half, Jon Meacham, senior, headed to the outside of the line of scrimmage. As the opponent snapped the ball, Meacham penetrated the line to intercept the punt for a 15-yard touchdown.

"Right away I knew my theory would work and I would block it," Meacham said. "And not only did I block the ball, but we got a touchdown off of it also."

With his second block of the game, Meacham played a big part in the 69-13 victory, according to Coach Leroy Marsh, health education teacher.

"Meacham had a great game," Coach Marsh said. "Any time you block two punts in a career, it's a great success, let alone in one high school game."

**Fair game**

Thoughts of victory ran through senior Adam Del Rio's mind as he sprinted onto the field with the rest of his teammates. With the bleachers filled with fans dressed in red and white, the team shut out Lowell 31-0 during the homecoming game.

*(continued on page 123)*

**Freshman Football Team** *(front row)* Robert Romano, Brad Snedden, Tim Lukoshus, Billy Stuart, Andy Bilse, Mike Sealy *(second row)* Mike Hart, Ferdinand Medina, Ray Sowa, Thomas Paliga, Ken Florek, David McWilliams, Matt Skertich *(third row)* Alex Peck, Matt Studniarz, Tony Jurkash, Brian Meyers, Ricky Paulson, Robbie Urbanowicz *(fourth row)* Nick Benedek, Mike Jones, Alex Lebo, Andy Stevens, Max Topete, Mark Bates, Nick Burchfield *(fifth row)* Nick Volkman, Erich Maul, Scott Rutkowski, David Snuckel, Tom Ramus, Joe Bridgman *(back row)* Coach Brian Vance, Coach Matt Backs, Coach Mike Mikolajczyk

## high jump

To avoid falling, Nick Cosme (34), junior, jumps over a teammate. The team lost to Griffith for the third year in a row. "It was a tough loss," Cosme said. "All week we practiced extra hard, especially since it was Griffith. They just played better than we thought they would and were just popping up in the most random places during the game."

## breaking through

Running past the Griffith opponent, Joe Skertich (7), senior, heads towards the end zone. Due to an injury Skertich suffered, he was forced to miss more than half the season.

## FOOTBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRESHMEN** | |
| **Gavit** | **7-0** |
| **Morton** | **13-8** |
| Lake Central | 0-42 |
| Andrean | 8-27 |
| Griffith | 0-35 |
| **Hammond High** | **28-6** |
| Highland | 7-28 |
| Lowell | 13-35 |
| | **3-5** |
| Conference | **1-4** |
| **JV** | |
| LaPorte | 6-35 |
| **Morton** | **42-6** |
| **Lake Central** | **23-21** |
| Andrean | 7-8 |
| **Griffith** | **32-12** |
| **Hammond High** | **30-6** |
| **Highland** | **21-10** |
| **Lowell** | **12-6** |
| **Gary Roosevelt** | **28-0** |
| | **7-2** |
| Conference | **4-1** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Gavit** | **53-14** |
| **Morton** | **41-13** |
| **Lake Central** | **41-13** |
| Andrean | 10-20 |
| Griffith | 3-14 |
| **Hammond High** | **69-13** |
| **Highland** | **49-0** |
| **Lowell** | **31-0** |
| **Gary Roosevelt** | **42-21** |
| Sectionals | |
| Griffith | 18-21 |

**All Conference**
Tony Calabrese
Adam Del Rio
Mike Helfen
Jim Phelan
Steve Smith
Mario Zerngast

**First Team All State**
Tony Calabrese
Jason Grunewald
Chris Herr

| | |
|---|---|
| | **7-3** |
| Conference | **3-2** |

**star receiver**
To beat the defender, Mike Helfen (42), senior, swerves to avoid getting tackled. The team shut out Lowell 31-0 at the Oct. 11 home-coming game. "The homecoming game was always special because the entire school looked forward to it," Helfen said. "A win always makes [the team] look and feel good."

# bad run of luck

**ahead of the game**
Attempting to score, Brian Hayes (33), junior, runs from Griffith opponents. Despite the weeks spent getting ready and practicing, the team still lost the game 3-14. "We played extra hard and thought we were ready, but they played a good game and still beat us," Hayes said.

*continued from page 121*

"We kicked off well at the start of the game," Del Rio said. "They had a pretty good drive going, and were getting pretty cocky. But when they were about 20 yards from scoring, I intercepted the ball. We scored right after that, and things just seemed to go our way for the rest of the game."

**Down and out**

Disappointment overwhelmed Mike Helfen, senior, as he realized that the final pass of the sectional game against Griffith fell incomplete. The team lost the last game of his senior season 18-21 despite long hours of practice.

When the team made a successful run in under a minute in the fourth quarter, hopes for a victory rose. However, this attempt didn't bring the team to their anticipated victory. The loss proved a disappointment since the team practiced so hard to win the game, according to Helfen.

"This was the most memorable moment of the game," Helfen said. "For a moment it seemed like we would win the game, and for that instant things were great. I was hoping to go longer in the playoffs and not be out so soon."

**BELIEVE IT**
Running 188 yards on five carries during the Lowell game, Brian Hayes breaks the school record

**face off**
Keeping with old tradition, Mario Zerngast (24), senior, paints a sophomore teammate's face. "The face painting pumped you up for the game, excited you and made you realize that Homecoming game day was that day," Zerngast said.

# giving their best shot

*For the first time in five years, Girls' Golf finishes with a winning record*

putt to the test
**During the team's win** against Lake Central, Amanda Reuter, junior, aligns her ball on the green. "We defeated so many teams we had trouble beating in the past," Reuter said. "All our practices finally paid off." **Lining up her shot**, co-captain Richelle Medellin, senior, prepares to drive down the eighth fairway. With a 4.3526 GPA, Richelle ended the year on the Academic All-State Team.

Basking in sunlight at the Valparaiso Country Club, seniors Raechelle and Richelle Medellin and junior Kelley Fernandez teed off on the first hole.

Five minutes later and 300 yards from the clubhouse, the sound of hail hitting the clubhouse roof drew the girls' attention. They found themselves in the path of a quickly approaching storm.

"We just stood frozen in the fairway and watched as this wall of black clouds came towards us," Fernandez said.

With bags stocked with titanium clubs, Fernandez remembered the danger of standing near metal in a storm and quickly ran towards a sand trap.

"I figured the sand wasn't dense, so I thought the lightning would be less likely to strike there," Fernandez said.

Drenched in the rain, the girls reached the clubhouse and displayed physical signs of their alarming afternoon. With welts on her skin, Fernandez promised never to forget such an unbelievable experience.

### Down to the wire

With the team anxiously waiting in a golf cart, Richelle approached the 18th green.

"I had no idea how anyone else was doing," Richelle said. "I just kept my score as low as possible."

Richelle went about her normal routine and sank her putt. After announcing her score of 103, Amanda Reuter, junior, jumped out of the cart to thank her teammate. To replace Reuter's 107, the team needed a 105 to clinch their first ever Lake Athletic Conference title.

"That title was just the culmination of all of our hard work," Richelle said. "I left my senior season with no regrets."

### Young and restless

As freshman Jennifer McCreight teed off, Tamara Habib, Chesterton, asked her about her age. Surprised at McCreight's age of 14 and 5-feet-11 stature, the girl contorted her face in disbelief.

McCreight contributed a team low of 85 to the Lake Athletic Conference victory. However, her inexperience in pressure situations affected her performance during the team's season-ending fifth-place sectional finish.

**BELIEVE IT**
As a new member of the conference, Girls' Golf wins first Lake Athletic Conference tournament

"After scoring a nine on a par five, I just fell apart," McCreight said. "I couldn't deal with the pressure of such a major tournament. But next year I'll try not to let it get to me and try to play the course like I know I can."

motor skills
To keep focused between holes, Coach Jim Davidson, industrial technology teacher, and Jennifer McCreight, freshman, take a breather after a 3-putt finish on the sixth green. "In the middle of a bad round, it was hard to fix the mechanics of your game," McCreight said. "Mr. Davidson just reminded me to stay focused rather than trying to correct a part of my swing."

## great expectations

As the ball lands on the green, Kelley Fernandez, junior, contemplates her next shot. After losing three varsity members from last season, Fernandez led the squad with the lowest season average of 48.3 strokes per round.

## handle with care

Ball in hand, co-captain Raechelle Medellin, senior, visualizes the path of her next putt. "Having a routine was necessary to build consistency," Raechelle said. "Doing the same thing each time got rid of a lot of thinking that got in the way of just hitting the ball in the hole."

## GIRLS' GOLF

| | |
|---|---|
| Portage/Marquette | 2nd |
| Lake Central Invite | 2nd |
| Kankakee Valley Invite | 5th |
| Rensselaer Invite | 8th |
| Chesterton | 225-203 |
| Marquette Invite | 4th |
| Crown Point, Lake Central | 2nd |
| Valparaiso | 239-229 |
| **Wheeler** | **185-226** |
| **Merrillville, Calumet** | **1st** |
| **Andrean** | **188-196** |
| **Lake Central** | **189-218** |
| **Lowell** | **187-200** |
| LaPorte Invite | 8th |
| **Bishop Noll** | **188-218** |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **193-241** |
| **Conference Tourney** | **1st** |
| Sectionals | 5th |
| **All Conference** | |
| Kelley Fernandez | |
| Jennifer McCreight | |
| | 10-4 |

## time out

Ready to tee off Wicker Park's second hole, Amanda Reuter, junior, and Katie Skiff, Lake Central, take in the scenery. The team switched home courses from Woodmar Country Club to Wicker Park in Highland. "Golf itself was relaxing because nature and beauty always surrounded you regardless of which course you played on," Reuter said.

**Girls' Golf Team** *(front row)* Liz Wible, Kelly Yurasovich, Madeline Grdina *(back row)* Dana Sarber, Richelle Medellin, Raechelle Medellin, Coach Jim Davidson, Kelley Fernandez, Amanda Reuter, Jennifer McCreight

## BOYS' SOCCER

| | |
|---|---|
| **JV** | |
| Bishop Noll | 1-2 |
| Portage | 1-2 |
| Valparaiso | 0-2 |
| **Gavit** | **3-0** |
| Chesterton | 0-0 |
| Crown Point | 2-2 |
| **Hobart** | **6-2** |
| **Highland** | **1-0** |
| **Lowell** | **2-1** |
| Lake Central | 0-0 |
| **Morton** | **6-0** |
| **Andrean** | **2-0** |
| **Merrillville** | **5-1** |
| | **7-3-3** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Bishop Noll** | **7-1** |
| **Clark** | **8-1** |
| **Portage** | **2-1** |
| **Valparaiso** | **4-0** |
| **Gavit** | **7-0** |
| **Chesterton** | **2-1** |
| **Griffith** | **3-0** |
| **Crown Point** | **3-0** |
| **Hammond** | **6-1** |
| **Hobart** | **3-2** |
| **Highland** | **3-0** |
| **Lowell** | **5-1** |
| **Lake Central** | **2-1** |
| **Morton** | **2-0** |
| Andrean | 1-2 |
| Merrillville | 2-3 |
| Sectionals | |
| **Gary West Side** | **10-0** |
| **Gavit** | **11-0** |
| **Bishop Noll** | **3-2** |
| Regionals | |
| Merrillville | 1-2 |
| **All Conference** | |
| Nick Giannakis | |
| Justin Gulotta | |
| Paul Leitelt | |
| Greg Pottorff | |
| | **17-3** |
| Conference | **8-1** |

**Boys' Varsity Soccer Team** *(front row)* Victor Zerngast, Art Insurriaga, Jay White, Greg Pottorff, Mike Lowe, Dan Grunewald *(second row)* Andrew Sharp, Paul Leitelt, Nick Giannakis, Chris Wey, Justin Gulotta, Corey Greenya, T.J. De Giulio *(back row)* Coach Jim Prasopoulos, Jeff Harris, Bryan Cheek, Bojan Rajkovic, Aaron Cheek, Jon Funston, Coach Tim Sopko

**Boys' JV Soccer Team** *(front row)* Brandon Chynoweth, Grant Felgenhauer, Adam Carlson, Grant Burdeau, Peter Puthenveetil, Bryan Joseph, Bill Marinakos *(second row)* Niko Culic, Steve Andrews, Bryce Hlista, Scott Strandberg, Mike Shinkan, Tom Sapyta, Jay Lucas, Kevin Hoffman *(back row)* Coach Jim Prasopoulos, Adam Grunewald, Jared Flahaven, Nick Shelton, Anthony Alfonsi, Brent Fox, Coach Tim Sopko

### passing chance

After stopping the ball, co-captain Art Insurriaga, senior, prepares to pass it to Paul Leitelt, sophomore. During the off-season, Insurriaga played with the Chicago Magic, a club team for skilled players that focused on strategy. "To get into college for soccer, they were the people to play with," Insurriaga said. "They had the connections."

toss up

**Ready to throw the** ball after it landed out of bounds, Bryan Cheek, senior, searches for an open teammate. **Placing the ball within** the white lines, Jay White, senior, prepares for a corner kick. **Dribbling the ball, Justin** Gulotta, senior, weaves down the field. Gulotta replaced junior T.J. De Guilio as goalie after he left the sectional championship game with a concussion. He hadn't played goalie since freshman year.

# kicked into high gear

*As Conference and Sectional Champs, Boys' Soccer fights to the top, missing Semi-State by one point*

After downing a Subway sandwich, co-captain Greg Pottorff, senior, headed home and showered. He blasted "Feel So Good" by Naughty by Nature from a mix CD that pumped him up before games.

Continuing his pre-game ritual, Pottorff headed to the field and opened his bag to swallow Tums he kept inside.

Pottorff then entered the locker room where Chris Wey, junior, put on a good-luck t-shirt he wore since freshman year, a red "Munster Biddy Ball" t-shirt.

"After one game I hadn't washed the shirt, and it was soaked from sweat," Wey said. "So I didn't wear it the next game. We ended up losing for the first time. After that I swore I'd wear it until the end of my senior year."

### Broken streak

Lined up in front of the goal box, Art Insurriaga, senior, took the fifth shot during shootouts. After 14 minutes of overtime against Andrean, the two teams battled for the best out of five.

His ball bounced off the right goal post and headed left. After dancing around on the goal line, it missed. The loss in shootouts marked the end of the team's 13-game winning streak.

The loss snapped the team back to reality for Sectionals, according to Coach Jim Prasopoulos, Westlake teacher. Even though the game hurt their conference record, the boys still attained the best record among the area teams.

"Any time you could learn a lesson like that and not have it affect the conference standing, it was a blessing," Coach Prasopoulos said.

### Stealing the show

After the ball rebounded off the goal post, Jon Funston, sophomore, scored. In a rush of excitement, he pulled his shirt over his head and ran around. After realizing he couldn't see, he accidentally fell.

"I tripped and turned it into a roll so people couldn't tell if it was a trip or a dive," Funston said. "But most of the other players could tell."

Contrary to Funston's impromptu celebration, Nick Giannakis, senior, planned his. Before the season he told Pottorff that together they'd score the season's first goal.

Sure enough, they did. He ran to his parents to surprise them with a flaming soccer ball tattoo on his shoulder.

"The only thing that I heard was, 'You're dead,'" Giannakis said.

**BELIEVE IT**

Heading in with only two losses, Boys' Soccer wins Sectional Championship game against Bishop Noll

leading the Wey

To move the ball up the field, Chris Wey, junior, kicks it past his opponents at the midfield.

reaching goals

Weaving his way around the goalie, Paul Leitelt, sophomore, attempts to score a goal. As only a sophomore, Leitelt received the awards for Top Team Player and Offensive MVP.

# getting down and dirty

*Under a new captain system, Girls Varsity Soccer celebrates a shared conference title*

**up for grabs**
During the Highland conference match, co-captain Mary Leitelt, senior, and Katie Daniels, junior, watch from the sidelines as Lisa Murray, senior, throws the ball back in play. Murray rotated in as captain early in the season after the team voted to elect different leaders every other game. "The idea was okay," Murray said. "But the unity of the team took longer because there was never a definite person to turn to."

With the wrinkled dollar in her hand, she waited to speak during the senior banquet. In front of friends and family members, co-captain Mary Leitelt, senior, revealed the story behind the seemingly insignificant bill.

Three years ago, Megan Remec, junior, insisted that Leitelt borrow a dollar to purchase some food at a Boys' Soccer game. After Leitelt politely refused, Remec secretly slipped the dollar bill into Leitelt's soccer bag.

"That was just her personality," Leitelt said. "She always gave money away to whoever needed it. She never let me pay her back, and I just thought Senior Night would be the perfect time to repay her."

Surprised that Leitelt recalled such a tiny incident, Remec hugged her friend and tucked the souvenir into her pocket. Remec wrote the words "From Mary" on the bill and set it on her dresser.

"I couldn't believe she saved it for three years; I didn't even remember that happening," Remec said. "It just showed how close-knit we were as a team and what we meant to each other. For all the times when we fought, we always managed to make up just like sisters."

**BELIEVE IT**

Scoring 27 times during the season, Amanda Achter breaks school record for most goals scored by an individual

### Goal-oriented

She closed her eyes to focus on what she needed to do for the biggest game of her life. The performance of co-captain Amanda Achter, junior, would decide a rival's defeat and a conference title.

"The fact that it was Conference was the most driving factor," Achter said. "We weren't going to be satisfied unless we came out with the title."

Early in the second half, Achter scored the first goal to tie the match at one. In overtime she scored again to give the team a 2-1 victory and a shared conference title with Highland and Andrean.

"The fans really got into it," Achter said. "With the title everything just came together nicely. The game couldn't have played out any better."

**stolen record**
Trying to steal the ball, Amanda Achter (10), junior, collides into her opponent. Achter attributed her school record for most goals scored to her teammates. "I was only able to break the defense because of the support behind me," Achter said.

**grounded**
Seconds after the national anthem ended, the girls tumble to the grass to shout out their goals for the night. "Everyone had little rituals before the game," Lydia Carle, senior, said. "But this was something we did as a team to get pumped up and focused."

### quick change

With a clap of their hands, Hana Keil (24), junior, subs in for Amanda Diombala (8), junior. Diombala assisted the Conference-winning goal. "Even though Amanda [Achter] scored the goal, having the assist was just as exhilarating," Diombala said.

**Girls' Varsity Soccer Team** *(front row)* Hana Keil, Ali Nykiel, Amanda Diombala, Amanda Achter, Peach Roman-Lagunas, Lydia Carle, Taryn Lotak, Sara Schulte *(second row)* Stephanie Hoffman, Anne Mcshane, Megan Remec, Melissa Jurich, Katie Daniels, Kersten Kelly, Chrissy Domenico *(back row)* Coach Donna Sopko, Coach John Fekete, Katie Howarth, Hali Tsolakos, Mary Leitelt, Julie Bembenista, Lisa Murray, Coach Val Pflum

**Girls' JV Soccer Team** *(front row)* Meghan Guthrie, Emily Clark, Jen Conley, Angela Banas, Stefanie Krasic *(second row)* Amie Johnson, Ashley Carlson, Alex Pavkovich, Stephanie Coulis, Lauren Lipton, Allyce Carlson *(back row)* Stephanie Scully, Lauren Cherrier, Katie Watterson, Coach Val Pflum, Kim Price, Brogan Guthrie, Sarah Steele

## GIRLS' SOCCER

| | |
|---|---|
| **JV** | |
| St. Joe | 1-1 |
| **East Chicago Central** | **5-1** |
| Portage | 0-2 |
| Kankakee Valley | 0-0 |
| Lake Central | 1-1 |
| Valparaiso | 1-2 |
| Andrean | 0-2 |
| **Lowell** | **1-0** |
| **Merrillville** | **3-0** |
| Lafayette Jefferson | 1-1 |
| **Griffith** | **3-0** |
| **Hobart** | **2-0** |
| Highland | 0-3 |
| Crown Point | 0-1 |
| | **5-5-4** |
| Conference | **1-2** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Morton** | **8-1** |
| St. Joe | 2-7 |
| **Bishop Noll** | **11-0** |
| Portage | 1-6 |
| **Gavit** | **6-0** |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **3-1** |
| Lake Central | 1-3 |
| Valparaiso | 1-3 |
| Andrean | 0-1 |
| **Lowell** | **11-0** |
| **Merrillville** | **4-1** |
| Lafayette Jefferson | 2-2 |
| **Griffith** | **5-2** |
| **Hobart** | **5-0** |
| **Highland** | **2-1** |
| **Crown Point** | **3-1** |
| Sectionals | |
| **Rensselaer** | **11-0** |
| Lake Central | 1-4 |
| **All Conference** | |
| Amanda Achter | |
| Amanda Diombala | |
| Melissa Jurich | |
| Hana Keil | |
| | **11-6-1** |
| Conference | **3-1** |

## within reach

On the run, No. 1 singles player Mike Lee, senior, slices the ball. "Playing tennis was about self-discipline more than anything," Lee said. "Once you got to a certain level, it was all about who was more mentally disciplined and wanted it more."

## spin doctor

With a flick of the wrist, No. 2 singles player Adam Rothschild, senior, hits a forehand up the alley. "I tried to find out a little about my opponent, and during warm-ups I would pick up his weaknesses," Rothschild said.

## BOYS' TENNIS

| | |
|---|---|
| **JV** | |
| **Hobart** | **5-0** |
| **Valparaiso** | **5-0** |
| **Lowell** | **5-0** |
| **Calumet** | **3-0** |
| **Andrean** | **4-0** |
| **Griffith** | **4-0** |
| **Highland** | **5-0** |
| **Merrillville JV Invite** | **1st** |
| **Crown Point** | **5-0** |
| **Merrillville** | **4-1** |
| | **9-0** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Hobart** | **5-0** |
| **Valparaiso** | **5-0** |
| N. Central Invite | |
| **Lowell** | **4-1** |
| Classic | |
| **Zionsville** | **4-1** |
| W. Lafayette | 1-4 |
| Carmel | 0-5 |
| **Lake Central** | **3-0** |
| **Calumet** | **5-0** |
| **Andrean** | **5-0** |
| **Griffith** | **5-0** |
| **Highland** | **4-1** |
| LaPorte Invite | |
| **Penn** | **3-2** |
| **LaPorte** | **4-1** |
| LAC Tourney | |
| **Calumet** | **5-0** |
| **Lowell** | **4-1** |
| **Highland** | **3-2** |
| **Crown Point** | **5-0** |
| Merrillville | 2-3 |
| Sectionals | |
| **Bishop Noll** | **5-0** |
| **Morton** | **5-0** |
| Regionals | |
| **Crown Point** | **5-0** |
| **Highland** | **4-1** |
| Semi-State | |
| **Valparaiso** | **5-0** |
| St. Joe | 0-5 |
| **All Conference** | |
| Gabe Culberg | |
| Shreyas Joshi | |
| Mike Lee | |
| Ben Oprinovich | |
| Tim Piatek | |
| Adam Rothschild | |
| | **20-4** |
| Conference | **5-0** |

**Boys' Tennis Team** *(front row)* Tom Dwars, Nick Stone, Tim Piatek, Rich Shudick, Adam Rothschild, Mike Shideler, Mike Lee, Gabe Culberg, Scott Gray, Ben Oprinovich, Shreyas Joshi, Chad Holajter, Joe Piatek *(second row)* Coach Steve Lopez, Darius Bamboat, Neel Shah, Bhavik Nana, Troy Velasquez, Matt Jillson, Greg Curran, Jia Hou, Andrew Lee, Dan Witkus, Paul Cowgill, Andrew Bridgman *(third row)* Pat Thomas, Chris Topor, Tim Wasem, Rodrigo Fernandez-De-Cordoba, Casey Jedrzejczak, John Rogers, Chris Bakker, Andrew Kitchell, Denny Lee, Ajay Patwari *(back row)* Eric Appelsies, Philip Chan, David Chen, Chris Ondo, Jason Gott, Mack Rawden, Chetan Chaubal, Arun Umapathy, Chris Maloney, Aaron Smith

## plan of attack

During a changeover, Coach Steve Lopez, social studies teacher, maps out strategies with seniors Gabe Culberg and Tim Piatek. "If our team was doing strong, I would offer words of encouragement to continue their consistency," Coach Lopez said. "I would say 'Go for the jugular,' which meant finish [the team] off."

double time

**Clenching his left fist**, Tim Piatek, senior, follows through on his serve. **Quickly shuffling his feet**, Ben Oprinovich, senior, dips down for a backhand. "In seventh grade my dad took me to play, and I fell in love with it," Oprinovich said. "I was annoyed that it wasn't in the second grade."

# swing into action

*With a new coach, new rules and a new home tournament, Boys' Tennis starts off fresh*

Hobbling onto the court, Mike Shideler, junior, struggled to keep his nerves in check. Practicing for 10 minutes against his Calumet opponent, he reverted back to his old movements and rhythm.

After three weeks out of the lineup because of a broken leg and a torn ACL, the match determined Shideler's ability to return to the game.

"After the first point, I was kind of relieved," Shideler said. "I knew it wasn't going to be that hard of a match, but I was worried about my leg."

After having his cast removed, Shideler returned with a desire to make a statement on his first match back.

"I loved the game so much that I would play with my cast on," Shideler said. "So when the first match came around and I won, it was all the better."

### Rule of thumb

In a single file line, Shreyas Joshi, junior, read the packet outlining the new coach's rules. The team fell silent while reviewing the changes.

"My first reaction to the packet was, 'I'm screwed,'" Joshi said. "He only allowed a player to move up two spots if they were lucky. I knew that it would be a challenge. But I had the chance to make my showing on varsity."

Coach Steve Lopez' changes included a ladder, a three strikes policy on practices and stricter rules on running.

"I wanted them to know that I had certain demands for my athletes," Coach Lopez said. "It was going to be done all the way and not just part-time."

### Rough riders

Shouting "Feel the rhythm. Feel the rhyme. Get on up. It's Mustang time," Gabe Culberg, senior, led a chant before their first round of the Semi-State match.

Winning the match, Culberg and his No. 1 doubles partner, Tim Piatek, senior, helped the team snatch a 5-0 victory against Valparaiso and a slot in the championship match against St. Joe.

"We knew we could beat Valpo, but we didn't take them for granted," Culberg said. "They came out to play."

The momentum from a Valparaiso win didn't continue into the match against St. Joe.

**BELIEVE IT**

With their win over Highland, the team captures its 12th consecutive Regional Championship

"I think we were all a little bit intimidated," Culberg said. "They were playing their whole season to beat us. An obvious momentum al-lowed St. Joe to take over. They had more fire that day."

The 0-5 loss against St. Joe ended the Boys' Tennis Team's four-year consecutive run of state qualifications.

## speed bump

Arms stretched out, co-captain Julie Bassetto, junior, bumps the ball. As a co-captain, Bassetto assumed team responsibilities. "I had the responsibility to encourage people," she said. "I talked to people individually, and my advice soaked in."

## words of wisdom

With a play in mind, Head Coach Naveed Nizam explains strategies to the players. Advice helped the team work as one. "We were a strong team; once we bonded and figured out who we were, we became a dominating force," Coach Nizam said.

**Varsity Volleyball Team** *(front row)* Sarah Pfeifer, Nancy Bielfeldt, Monica Manoski, Sam Korda, Manager Alana Salata *(back row)* Coach Janet Wories, Coach Naveed Nizam, Manager Scott Vandersteen, Jill Hanrahan, Lindsay Smaron, Lindsey Pugh, Melissa Obszanski, Julie Bassetto, Jessica Montella, JV Coach Don Fortner, Asst. Coach Jenny Sliwa

**JV Volleyball Team** *(front row)* Allison Chelgren, Sami McCarthy, Libbie Thompson, Lauren Gaskey, Katie Hamilton *(second row)* Coach Janet Wories, Coach Naveed Nizam, Coach Don Fortner, Asst. Coach Jenny Sliwa *(back row)* Natalie Samano, Ashley Dudzik, Stephenie Brajak, Jackie Yerga, Kelly Shaw

**Freshman Volleyball Team** *(front row)* Katie Lissy, Emily Beezhold, Dani Blair, Celeste Tiberi, Ashley Boyan *(back row)* Asst. Coach Jenny Sliwa, Coach Don Fortner, Christine Barnes, Stephanie Andrade, Mary Ann Spolnik, Gina Rebesco, Maggie Behrens, Coach Naveed Nizam, Coach Janet Wories

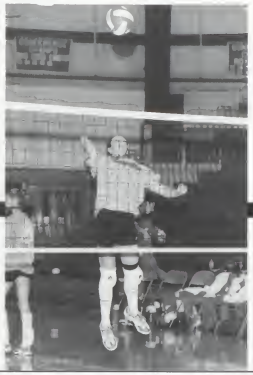
## VOLLEYBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRESHMEN** | |
| **Lake Central** | 11-21;21-14;21-9 |
| **Andrean** | **21-10;22-20** |
| **Merrillville** | **21-4;21-10** |
| **Calumet** | **21-8;21-18** |
| **Valparaiso** | **21-7;21-11** |
| **Hammond** | **21-3;21-11** |
| **Clark** | **21-11;21-17** |
| **Bishop Noll** | **21-5;21-13** |
| **Highland** | **21-5;21-12** |
| **Morton** | **21-9;21-16** |
| **Portage** | **21-14;21-18** |
| **Lake Central Tourney** | |
| **Hobart** | **21-9;21-12** |
| **Andrean** | **21-15;21-16** |
| **LaPorte** | **21-6;21-13** |
| **Lake Central** | **21-19;21-12** |
| **Crown Point** | **21-7;22-20** |
| **Hobart** | **21-9;21-3** |
| **Gavit** | **21-4;21-5** |
| **Valparaiso Tourney** | |
| **Portage** | **21-5;21-7** |
| **Valparaiso** | **21-13;17-21;21-15** |
| **Chesterton** | **21-17;21-7** |
| Merrillville | 21-17;13-21;21-16 |
| **Marian Catholic** | **21-11;21-18** |
| **Lowell** | **21-13;21-16** |
| **Calumet** | **21-7;21-11** |
| Marian Catholic Invite | |
| Andrew | 16-21;9-21 |
| **TF South** | **21-19;21-9** |
| Lincolnway | 21-9 |
| Illianna | 13-21;15-21 |
| Marian Cetholic | 10-21;13-21 |
| **JV** | |
| Valparaiso | 21-14;12-21;14-21 |
| Lowell | 14-21;16-21 |
| Chesterton | 11-21;24-22;16-21 |
| Morton | 21-18;15-21;14-21 |
| **Andrean Tourney** | |
| **Highland** | **21-18;21-16** |
| MC Marquette | 14-21;8-21 |
| **Lowell** | **19-21;21-3;21-19** |
| **Bishop Noll** | **23-21;21-13** |
| **Hobart** | **21-3;21-9** |
| **Clark** | **21-9;21-14** |
| Bishop Noll | 17-21;21-15;21-7 |
| **Gavit** | **21-14;21-10** |
| Marian Catholic Invite | |
| Wersaw | 6-21;7-21 |
| Michigan City | 10-21;12-21 |
| Mishawaka | 10-21;15-21 |
| **Griffith** | **21-12;21-10** |
| **Hammond** | **21-10;21-12** |
| **Lake Station** | **21-15;21-18** |
| **Whiting** | **21-14;15-21;21-13** |
| **Calumet** | **21-14;21-19** |
| Highland | 21-23;15-21 |
| **Lake Central** | **17-21;22-20;21-14** |
| **Merian Catholic** | **21-15;21-19** |
| **Andrean** | **21-14;21-16** |
| Crown Point | 11-21;22-20;12-21 |
| **LAC JV Tourney** | |
| **Gavit** | **21-19;21-8** |
| Bishop Noll | 16-21,13-21 |
| | **15-12** |
| Conference | **8-4** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| Valparaiso | 21-19;21-15;15-21; 13-21;10-15 |
| **Lowell** | **19-21;21-13;21-7;21-4** |
| Chesterton | 16-21,21-19;19-21; 21-12;6-15 |
| Morton | 21-13;25-24;15-21; 13-21;12-15 |
| **Hobart** | **21-19;21-11;21-14** |
| **Clark** | **21-18;23-21;21-12** |
| **Bishop Noll** | **21-12;19-21;21-13;21-16** |
| **Gavit** | **21-10;21-19;21-16** |
| **Munster Invite** | |
| Plymouth | 21-9;16-21;17-21 |
| Portage | 24-25;21-14;15-21 |
| St. Joe | 14-21;14-21 |
| **Clark** | **21-19;18-21;21-14** |
| **Griffith** | **14-21;21-17;21-11;21-12** |
| **Hammond** | **21-12;21-18;21-19** |
| **Lake Station** | **21-18;21-18;21-18** |
| **Whiting** | **21-19;21-17;20-22; 20-22;15-8** |
| **Calumet** | **21-18;21-10;21-15** |
| Highland | 12-21;14-21,19-21 |
| **Merrillville Invite** | |
| **FW Elm** | **23-21;21-18;21-17** |
| Merrillville | 15-21,15-21 |
| Mishawake | 12-21;10-21 |
| Lake Central | 9-21;12-21,18-21 |
| Andrean | 18-21;18-21;21-19;15-21 |
| Crown Point | 5-21;10-21;13-21 |
| Sectionels | |
| Lowell | 25-24;18-21;18-21; 21-14;9-15 |
| | **13-17** |
| Conference | **8-2** |

## twin towers

Trying to block the ball, Melissa Obszanski and Sam Korda, juniors, deny the opposing team the point. The players focused on teamwork as a goal for the season. "We put our talents together and worked as one unit instead of individuals, achieving more team unity," Korda said.

jump start
**Quickly slamming the ball,** Sam Korda, junior, tracks its movement. **Serving the ball,** co-captain Sarah Pfeifer, senior, arches her arm for maximum power. She won the MVP award. "Playing experienced teams intensified games," Pfeifere said. "We wanted to dominate the game just because they said we couldn't."



# just out of reach

*New intensity levels challenge Volleyball to stretch for upper limits*

Chaos struck the locker room when Melissa Obszanski, junior, started a dodge-ball game to motivate her teammates before they played. As volleyballs ricocheted off the walls, the Volleyball team's energy rose.

"People were confused because they didn't know who was whipping balls at them," Obszanski said. "But no one stood there and just got hit. They wanted to retaliate, so they joined in."

Obszanski thought the team lacked motivation and brought their spirit to a higher level. Music blasted and players screamed as the hectic scene continued.

Balls remained strewn throughout the locker room. The team charged onto the floor with anticipation and energy.

"People realized that you had to be motivated to play to your potential," Obszanski said. "Sometimes listening to music wasn't enough, so I made it more interesting. It was a crazy thing to do, but that was the fun of it."

**BELIEVE IT**

At the Munster Invite, Sarah Pfeifer receives recognition as part of the All Tournament Team



reach out
Forcefully swinging her arm towards the volleyball, Melissa Obszanski, junior, attempts to spike it over the net. She earned the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award at the Fall Sports Banquet, along with Sarah Pfeifer, senior. "I tried to help develop our talent by playing to my potential and helping my teammates work to theirs," Obszanski said.

### Follow the rules

Gasping for air, co-captain Julie Bassetto, junior, stumbled off the court and plopped onto a bench. Exhausted from a tiring workout, she rested after the loss of their final game at Sectionals.

Bassetto and her teammates battled to eliminate errors from their game. Because of new state rules, teams earned points from opposing teams' mistakes, regardless of who served the ball.

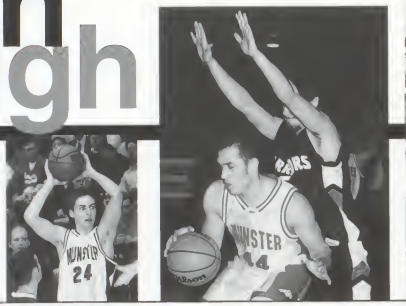
"You pushed to win, and you couldn't have a break," Bassetto said. "When you made a mistake, you missed that point."

The rule forced teams to play smart, focusing more on individual plays, according to Bassetto. Bassetto cried with her teammates; she didn't want her junior-year season to end.

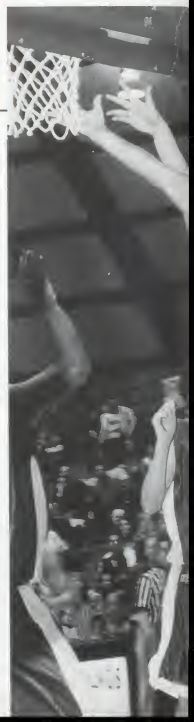
"The game was over, and I realized we lost," Bassetto said. "I cried with my teammates who shared my sadness. I looked back on what we accomplished this year and dried my tears. Although the season ended, our friendships would last forever."

# reach high

*Ranking as high as second in state, Boys' Varsity Basketball sets pace for the Region*



**think fast**
**After picking up his dribble,** Alex Pilawski, senior, looks for a teammate to pass the ball. "When the season started, I was struggling with my shooting," Pilawski said. "So later I concentrated more on defense until my shooting started to come around." **Backing into his Calumet** opponent, Adam Del Rio, senior, inches toward the hoop.



As his second three-point shot swished through the net, co-captain John Jamicich, senior, knew that he had his head in the game. He found himself on a mission to carry out the team's early-season goal of defeating Merrillville.

"After I hit those shots, I got a rare feeling," Jamicich said. "I wasn't afraid to take a chance with the ball after that. I just wanted to win the game for coach."

With the last quarter of the game coming to a close, Nate Burchfield, senior, granted Jamicich his wish. Trapped by two players, Burchfield made a quick pass to Jamicich who took the three-point shot that put them in the lead.

"It felt amazing, but I didn't cheer much," Jamicich said. "Since it was only our second game, we didn't want to come off like a bunch of lucky guys who didn't expect to win. It was our first real test of the season. Everyone wondered how our season would play out."

**BELIEVE IT**

With 21 wins, Boys' Varsity Basketball sets new school record for most victories in a season

### Ready to rumble

With their eyes shut tight and their teammates gathered close by, eight players sat in a group circle and began a series of meditation and breathing exercises. Their anticipated rematch against Griffith would begin in a few short minutes.

"I guess it must have looked kind of weird to see us like that, but it let all of our nerves out," Jamicich said. "We were tense about the game, and we all just needed to relax beforehand."

As he entered the Calumet locker room, co-captain Dustin Bothwell, junior, tossed his sports bag into the same locker he used the night before. Coming off a sizeable win over Highland, he hoped the ritual would link them to another win.

"It was a hard game for me to prepare for," Bothwell said. "We were all thinking about how we could stop Kenny Harris (Griffith). It was going to be the biggest challenge of the evening."

Finishing their preparation strategies, the basketball team made its way out onto the court to a crowd of boisterous fans. At the end of the much-anticipated game, they prevailed against Griffith 47-40, avenging their early-season loss against Harris and the Panthers.

"The crowd went crazy," Burchfield said. "It was good to win the game for them as well as the team."

*(continued on page 136)*

### high hopes

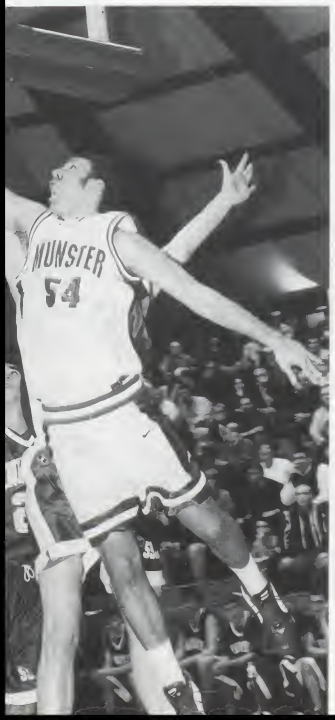
Hoping to shoot over his EC Central defender, co-captain Dustin Bothwell (22), junior, posts up as Josh Martin (10), junior, looks to help.

### overcoming obstacles

As he weaves past his Calumet opponent along the baseline, Jason Grunewald, junior, muscles his way to the hoop. "You had to always stay aggressive," Grunewald said. "It was important to play good defense against any tough team. It was also worthwhile to make an effort so that everyone [contributed] equally."

### pep talk

During a time out, Coach Mike Hackett, health teacher, motivates the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team as co-captain Jim Phelan, senior, attentively listens. "If we didn't play to our full potential, he tried to challege us," Phelan said. "He just wanted us to go out there onto the court and really apply ourselves during the games."



### in for the long stretch

Reaching up for a rebound, Nate Burchfield, senior, jumps over his defenders to tap the ball in. "I always made an extra effort to get a shot in." Burchfield said. "You couldn't just give up on something that was so close to making it in."

### airborne

Hands overhead, Josh Martin, junior, and co-captain Jim Phelan, senior, leap for the ball. "It was a struggle to get the upperhand before anyone else, but we always went into the game with an upbeat attitude," Phelan said.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRESHMEN** | |
| Merrillville | 25-40 |
| **Valparaiso** | **40-39** |
| **Lowell** | **61-9** |
| **Morton** | **42-20** |
| **Portage** | **54-34** |
| **Clark** | **56-30** |
| Crown Point | 36-38 |
| EC Central | 42-57 |
| **Hobart** | **52-45** |
| Highland | 35-37 |
| **Bishop Noll** | **42-29** |
| Lake Central | 22-41 |
| **Griffith** | **36-28** |
| **Hammond** | **45-31** |
| EC Central | 39-52 |
| **Highland Tournament** | |
| **Highland** | **41-37** |
| **Lake Central** | **37-27** |
| **Calumet** | **62-40** |
| **Andrean** | **53-39** |
| | **13-6** |
| Conference | **7-1** |
| **JV** | |
| **Highland** | **45-37** |
| **Merrillville** | **42-38** |
| **Andrean** | **56-43** |
| **Hammond** | **53-45** |
| **Lake Central** | **49-36** |
| **Chesterton** | **51-45** |
| KV Tournament | |
| Crown Point | 37-43 |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **55-49** |
| **Portage** | **55-41** |
| **Lowell** | **51-30** |
| **Calumet** | **72-20** |
| **Gavit** | **50-14** |
| **Hammond** | **49-32** |
| **Griffith** | **47-39** |
| Crown Point | 36-47 |
| **Hobart** | **41-38** |
| **Morton** | **52-35** |
| | **15-2** |
| Conference | **8-0** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Highland** | **66-37** |
| **Merrillville** | **53-50** |
| **Andrean** | **73-49** |
| **Frankfort** | **76-61** |
| **Hammond** | **60-47** |
| **Lake Central** | **78-58** |
| **Chesterton** | **57-55** |
| **Crown Point** | **68-55** |
| **Highland** | **52-43** |
| **Portage** | **66-60** |
| **Lowell** | **70-56** |
| **Calumet** | **86-49** |
| **Gavit** | **66-28** |
| **Hammond** | **62-47** |
| Griffith | 46-53 |
| **Crown Point** | **83-59** |
| **Hobart** | **72-47** |
| **LAC Tournament** | |
| **Andrean** | **54-52** |
| **Morton** | **61-35** |
| **Highland** | **56-43** |
| **Griffith** | **47-40** |
| **Morton** | **52-25** |
| Sectionals | |
| EC Central | 38-39 |
| **All Conference** | |
| John Jamicich | |
| Dustin Bothwell | |
| Jim Phelan | |
| | **21-2** |
| Conference | **7-1** |

# reach high

heads up

Leaning into his Hobart defender, Nick Giannakis, senior, tries to throw up a jumpshot over his opponent's extended arms. "When opponents came after me, I did whatever I could to get around them," Giannakis said. "Like everyone on the team, I put in a tough effort to do well."

## Daredevil

*continued from page 134*

Around a crowded table at Commander, the Boys' Varsity Basketball Team watched as co-captain Jim Phelan, senior, chugged five cups of maple syrup. Phelan acted on a dare started by Jamicich as the boys wrapped up their breakfast.

Before major games the team made an effort to have breakfast together. Over eggs and toast, they discussed strategies and offered open discussions where they spoke up about any of their thoughts or concerns. As a result, many team members felt they had a close relationship with each other.

"Since there were all juniors and seniors on the [varsity] team this year, I knew them all really well," Jamicich said. "I had been playing basketball with these guys ever since I was in the first grade."

The boys also occasionally met at Jamicich's house to watch tapes of past games and to have dinner. During practices they constantly joked around with one another to build team unity.

"Out of all the basketball teams that I've ever played on, this one had been the closest that I had bonded with," Bothwell said. "The seniors were my best friends."

**BELIEVE IT**

Starting off the season with 14 consecutive wins, the team ranked as high as second in State

blocked off

With his arms outstretched, Warren Santner, senior, stops an opponent from passing the ball. "I tried to go out there and give it my all," Santner said. "I had a lot of hussle and did whatever else I could for the team."

**Freshman Boys' Basketball Team** *(front row)* Alex Toth, Billy Stuart, Taylor Del Rio, Steve Andrews, Mike Sealy, Brad Snedden, Matt Skertich, Chris Bakker *(back row)* Manager Kevin Phelan, Matt Westerlund, Nick Burchfield, Joe Zagorski, Shawn Spicer, Joe Bridgman, Tim Lukoshus, Coach Mike Mikolajczyk

### down under

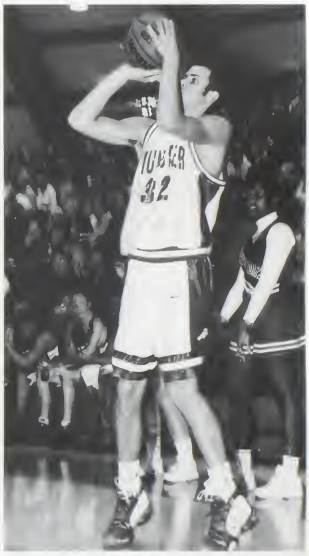
Up against two Calumet defenders, Adam Del Rio, senior, posts up under the basket. "There was a lot of pressure right before you took a shot," Adam said. "You had to be able to think quick on your feet."

### double trouble

Fending off two opponents, co-captain Jim Phelan, senior, searches for a pass. "I looked to my teammates for backup when I was double-teamed," Phelan said. "We were always there to help out."

### gimme your best shot

Preparing to shoot a three-pointer, co-captain John Jamicich, senior, zeroes in on the basket. "I tried to relax and not worry about the little things," Jamicich said. "This year I was more experienced. I knew that I could do well as long as I stuck to my game."



**JV Boys' Basketball Team** *(front row)* Adam Hruskocy, Dan Grunewald, Aric VanWeelden, Jeff Marinier, Marcus Hammonds, Matt DeRolf, Brent Banach *(back row)* Kevin Strbjak, Joe Piatek, Scott Rutkowski, Nick Stolarz, Adam Grunewald, Coach Jim Prasopoulos

**Varsity Boys' Basketball Team** *(front row)* Jason Grunewald, Matt Jillson, Alex Pilawski, Adam Del Rio, John Jamicich, Josh Martin, Bart Banach, Nick Giannakis *(back row)* Assistant Coach Johnny Payne, Head Coach Mike Hackett, Warren Santner, Nate Burchfield, Jim Phelan, Dustin Bothwell, Coach Jim Prasopoulos, Trainer John Doherty

**Girls' Varsity Basketball** *(front row)* Jill Hanrahan, Jen Hostetter, Kaitlin De Cero, Amanda Diombala, Amy Parker, Megan Remec, Stephanie Andjelich *(back row)* Manager Patty Pfister, Lindsay Puterko, Coach Mike Coil, Jill Sinchak, Coach Beth Vesa, Melissa Obszanski, Coach Tim Sopko, Lindsey Pugh, Coach Jim Davidson

**Girls' JV Basketball** *(front row)* Nicole Enright, Angela Banas, Jennie Jamicich, Stephanie Hoffman, Dani Blair, Libbie Thompson, Katie Hamilton *(back row)* Manager Patty Pfister, Ali Nykiel, Stephenie Brajak, Jackie Yerga, Monica Manoski, Lauren Lipton, Lori Andjelich, Coach Jim Davidson

### pile-up

Circling on the floor, Katie Hamilton, freshman, fights for the jump-ball. "The only option for jump balls was to fight for them," Hamilton said. "When the referee blew the whistle, we jumped for it, and the game continued like normal."

### up in the air

Pressuring her guard, Megan Remec, junior, tips the ball. "The only way to score was to get the ball first," Remec said. "If the other team had possession, I made getting the ball my number one priority for the team."

## GIRL'S BASKETBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| **Freshman** | |
| **Highland** | **20-15** |
| Hobart | 21-29 |
| Lake Central | 29-38 |
| **Andrean** | **34-27** |
| **Calumet** | **31-20** |
| **Lowell** | **39-31** |
| **Merrillville** | **25-19** |
| Crown Point | 23-47 |
| **Morton** | **26-24** |
| Griffith | 12-37 |
| Portage | 27-30 |
| **Bishop Noll** | **31-23** |
| Highland | 32-33 |
| **Gavit** | **30-17** |
| **Griffith** | **25-17** |
| | 9-6 |
| **JV** | |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **33-28** |
| Chesterton | 32-36 |
| Highland | 25-27 |
| Crown Point | 32-34 |
| **Lowell** | **39-15** |
| Lake Central | 32-38 |
| **Andrean** | **43-25** |
| **Gary West Side** | **38-30** |
| **Gavit** | **44-17** |
| **Merrillville** | **29-14** |
| **Portage** | **23-21** |
| **KV Tournament** | |
| **Calumet** | **43-20** |
| **Hanover Central** | **33-13** |
| Lowell JV Tournament | |
| **Rensselaer** | **37-26** |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **37-33** |
| **Griffith** | **32-15** |
| Valparaiso | 34-40 |
| **Bishop Noll** | **44-13** |
| **Morton** | **26-14** |
| **Highland** | **35-25** |
| | 6-2 |
| Conference | 14-6 |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **60-35** |
| Chesterton | 39-57 |
| Highland | 40-56 |
| Crown Point | 30-52 |
| Lowell | 44-49 |
| Lake Central | 29-75 |
| Andrean | 32-42 |
| Gary West Side | 27-70 |
| Gavit | 47-51 |
| Merrillville | 39-51 |
| Portage | 42-45 |
| KV Tournament | |
| **Rensselaer** | **49-41** |
| Kankakee Valley | 48-55 |
| Griffith | 29-38 |
| Valparaiso | 26-62 |
| Bishop Noll | 27-34 |
| Morton | 38-40 |
| Highland | 27-56 |
| LAC Tournament | |
| **Hammond** | **55-42** |
| **Calumet** | **46-40** |
| **Lowell** | **41-28** |
| Highland | 23-65 |
| Sectionals | |
| **Gary Wallace** | **74-50** |
| East Chicago | 38-54 |
| | 6-18 |
| Conference | 0-8 |

### practice makes perfect

Competing intensely, Amy Parker, senior, struggles with teammates to earn the ball. "Practice helped us play in a game-like situation," Parker said. "We played mini-games against our teammates to get good competition against players at our level."

### catch me if you can

Quickly sprinting down the court, Jen Hostetter, senior, drives the ball to the net. "When I brought the ball down the court, I opened up my options by glancing toward the basket before proceeding [further]," Hostetter said.

### all blocked up

Denying her opponents the ball, Kaitlin De Cero, junior, tries to pass. "I focused on feeding the ball to my teammates at games," Kaitlin said.

steal the show
**Looking for a play,** Jill Sinchak, senior, passes the ball to a teammate. **Blocked by an opponent,** Jill Hanrahan, junior, searches for an open pass. "Teamwork was the most important part of the game to the whole team," Hanrahan said.

# passing chance

*Opening the season with injuries, the Mustangs recover with extra practice and determination*

training her vocal chords, co-captain Kaitlin De Cero, junior, sang "Baby Got Back" at maximum volume. Before facing Highland she aimed to motivate her teammates before the rival game.

Rounds of "Baby Got Back" and "YMCA" started the beginning of every bus ride. De Cero started the team ritual to loosen her teammates up before games and to relax them.

"Bus rides were long and tedious," De Cero said. "We bonded as friends and built our team unity. It was silly, and it took our minds off of the pressure and seriousness of the game."

As the tradition continued, people started to sing louder, and the JV team chimed in. The two teams competed to see who sang louder and more obnoxiously, according to De Cero. Voices screeched as the piercing noise grew intense.

"According to JV, they won the competition," De Cero said. "But every varsity player knew that we were the true winners. During the bus ride, we had spirit, energy and pride in the team. The team became unified, and the tradition remained with us throughout the season."

**BELIEVE IT**

With goals set high, varsity played Highland in the first LAC championship game in team history

**A Nozy Night**

Quickly running to grab a tissue, Jill Sinchak, senior, controlled her bleeding nose. Minutes before, a ball had smacked her as the team "clowned around" in the locker room before the Andrean game.

Teammates riled themselves up, creating a hectic atmosphere before the game. The team worked toward getting their adrenaline rushing in order to perform at their peak against opponents.

"Everyone ran around frantically," Sinchak said. "The team's energy level skyrocketed, and we got caught up in the moment. All of a sudden, I was in the line of action, and a ball hit my nose."

When Sinchak realized what happened to her nose, she immediately ran to the bathroom. Her teammates followed close behind her to make sure that she hadn't broken her nose. Sinchak later joined her team for warm-ups after she stopped the nose bleed.

"The team bonded through this occurrence," Sinchak said. "Everyone felt sympathy [for me] and tried to help. I didn't let it faze my game though; I still played my hardest when I went out

*(continued on page 140)*

# passing chance

**jump through hoops**
Jumping for the rebound over her opponent, Jen Hostetter, senior, reaches for the ball after her shot. "Rebounds were the best way to get another shot off right away," Hostetter said. "You had to be quick and stay on your feet to make sure you didn't let your opponent get to the ball first."

[redacted] there. It was something that the team wouldn't forget, and it became a fun joke."

*continued from page 139*

### The Nick of Time

On the bus with her teammates, Megan Remec, junior, headed to East Chicago Central High School to practice for Sectionals on the host court. As Remec looked at her surroundings outside the bus, she realized that the team's bus got lost.

The bus left Munster at around 10 a.m. in order to arrive on time for their 11 a.m. practice appointment. Their 15-minute bus ride turned into a 45-minute disaster for the team.

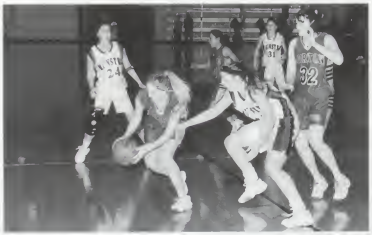
"When we crossed over the same railroad tracks eight times, we realized that we were lost," Remec said. "I looked at the nearest street sign, and I read 'Welcome to Whiting.' I started to worry."

Each team scheduled a certain time to be there, and they needed promptness, according to Remec. When a team arrived late, they lost their placement. The next team began their time minutes after the previous team left.

**BELIEVE IT**

Scoring in double digits, Jackie Yerga, freshman, led team scores in the last four of six season games

With help from anxious players, the driver navigated the way to the school. The team shouted "Turn!" at the driver when they approached the driveway of the gym. Everyone cheered when they had finally arrived. Although the team made it to the school on time, they looked at a map before coming home.



**pressure point**
With pressure on her opponent, Lindsey Pugh, sophomore, attempts to steal the ball. "Working hard at every game was one of my goals," Lindsey said. "I gave my all because I knew it was my chance to do so for the team."

**throw it away**
Tossing the ball to a teammate, Melissa Obszanski, junior, moves the ball. "I had determination for each game to play my best," Obszanski said. "The moves I made affected the whole team. Making mistakes harmed the entire team, not just me."

### steal the pass

Eyeing Katilin De Cero, junior, Amanda Diombala, junior, avoids giving up the ball during practice. "During practice I played as hard as I did in games," Diombala said. "I was there to improve my game; and when I faced talented players, it encouraged me to try harder."

### out of line

Close to the sideline, Nicole Enright, sophomore, slips by her opponent to take a shot. "Even on JV, it was always a challenge when we played games," Enright said. "Working with my teammates proved to be an important aspect in winning. We were close knit which helped."

### on guard

Keeping close, Lindsay Puterko, senior, guards her defender. "Defense was hard because you never knew where people were going to go or what move [the people] were going to do," Puterko said.

### air ball

Finishing with a lay up, Melissa Obszanski, junior, attempts to score for the team. "When the pressure was on, it was always harder to make a play work," Obszanski said. "If you wanted to do something great, you had to work together to achieve it."

**Girls' Freshman Basketball** *(front row)* Jessica Hajduk, Allison Meggers, Susan Suszczyk, Claudia Hernandez, Ashley Knezevich, Kelly Frank *(back row)* Manager Patty Pfister, Stephanie Pulido, Natalie Culp, Molly Yothment, Suzy Acosta, Mary Ann Spolnik, Emily Beezhold, Coach Tim Sopko

# within reach

between the lines
Reaching ahead, Steve Millies, sophomore, continues with the 200-yard freestyle race. "It was not just a sprint; there was some strategy involved," Millies said. "Even though it was 200 yards, it was still a nice, quick race."

*With only three seniors to lead the way, Boys' Swimming sets new state record for most sectional titles*

On the starting block during the Lake Central dual meet, Josh Raycroft, junior, prepared to swim the 500-yard freestyle race. His main rival swam in the next lane. His desire to beat his Lake Central (LC) opponent rose.

"I knew that the Lake Central guy next to me was pretty fast and that in order to keep up, I knew I had to swim really hard," Raycroft said.

In the end not only did he manage to beat his rival, but he finished with a personal record time of 5:10.76. That moment would stick out in his mind for a long time, according to Raycroft.

"The feeling was amazing," Raycroft said. "Since I focused so hard on the race, I was able to do well and beat my time."

### Going with the tide

With low marks for his first few dives at the regional meet, Justin Smith, sophomore, realized that something definitely needed to change and promised himself that he would only get better as the meet progressed.

"I started the meet off bad, but as it progressed I realized that I needed to focus harder to dive right," Smith said.

After finishing with a score of 364 and seventh out of 20 divers, Smith advanced to compete at State.

"Knowing that I had made it to State made me feel like all my hard work had surely paid off," Smith said.

**BELIEVE IT**

Winning their 18th sectional title, the team set the state record for most sectional titles won by a boys' swim team

### Moving on

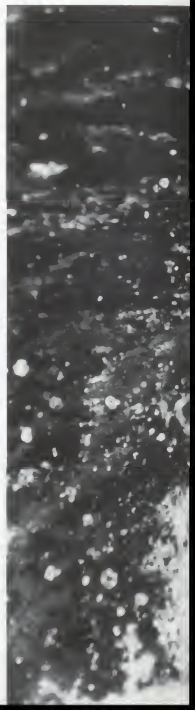
Before his final swim meet in high school, Brandon Thompson, senior, mentally and physically prepared himself for the event. With mixed feelings of excitement and nervousness, he hoped for the best at the meet.

"I felt more excited for this meet than anything," Thompson said. "I was nervous too, but this was the meet I worked all year for. With Sectionals out of the way, the Indianapolis meet was the only meet I had left to focus on."

Finishing his 500-yard freestyle race with a personal record time of 4:42.08, he placed fifth. Four years' worth of time spent training had not gone to waste, according to Thompson.

"Standing up on the podium to receive my award felt like the culmination of four years of hard work was finally paying off," Thompson said.

With his final high school meet behind him, Thompson felt a sense of sadness and relief. After four years of high school swimming, he could finally "start looking forward to what new things college swimming had to offer."



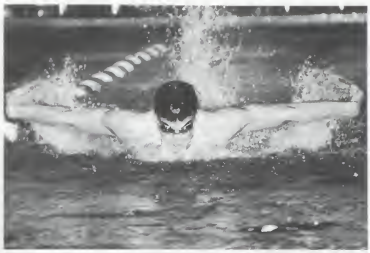
laid-back
Pulling through the water, Matt Lewis, senior, nears the end of the 100-yard backstroke event. "I fell into it because nobody else was good at it at the time," Lewis said. "I was swimming it and improving at it ever since my sophomore year and am currently the number one backstroker at Munster."

### breath of air

Water splashing all around him, Brandon Thompson, senior, swims the 100-yard backstroke. "I usually preferred the distance events, such as the 500-yard freestyle, over the shorter distance ones," Thompson said. "Once in a while the short ones were nice though, just to add some variety and see how I would do."

### flying along

In order to beat his opponent, Drew Hauflaire, junior, tears through the water during the 100-yard butterfly race. During one of the mid-season meets, Hauflaire slipped and fell in the back room and suffered a near concussion. Despite the injury, he still proceeded to swim the rest of the events that he had left that day.



**Boys' Swim Team** *(front row)* Bryan Chovanec, Grant Felgenhauer, Robert Romano, Dan Drudge, Daniel Lodge, Will Leary, Salman Siddiqui *(second row)* Steven Millies, Jeff Gaik, Tony Gallagher, Drew Hauflaire, Mike Mashura, Colin Tomazin, Steve Balog, John Herr, Josh Raycroft *(back row)* Brandon Thompson, Keith DeMars, Matt Lewis, Justin Smith, Shawn Pizzuto, Kevin Hoffman, Justin Flick, David Resler, Coach Larry Hautzinger, Coach Mike Blaze, Coach Chuck Chelich

## BOYS' SWIMMING

| | |
|---|---|
| **Penn** | **97-89** |
| **Lowell** | **114-68** |
| Munster Relays | 2nd |
| **Valparaiso** | **113-73** |
| **Portage** | **100-86** |
| Hamilton Southeastern Invite | 2nd |
| Highland Invite | 3rd |
| S.B. Riley | 81-105 |
| **Lake Central** | **125-58** |
| **Griffith** | **118-65** |
| **Crown Point** | **111-75** |
| **Merrillville** | **120-65** |
| **Calumet** | **114-31** |
| Chesterton | 73-113 |
| **LaPorte** | **119-67** |
| **Highland** | **111-74** |
| **Sectionals** | **1st-396 pts.** |
| **State** | **28th-18 pts.** |
| Brandon Thompson | 5th in 500 |
| **All Conference** | |
| Justin Smith | |
| Steve Millies | |
| Brandon Thompson | |
| Jeff Gaik | |
| Matt Lewis | |
| Drew Hauflaire | |
| **Conference** | **11-2 4-0** |

### waterworld

Treading through the water, Brandon Thompson, senior, swims the 500-yard freestyle. Thompson ended up placing fifth at State in 4:42.05.

### breaking the surface

Coming up for a quick breath, Josh Raycroft, junior, completes the breaststroke leg of the 200-yard medley relay. "I noticed a big improvement in my stroke since I swam it in the relay this year," Raycroft said.

## GIRLS' SWIMMING

| | |
|---|---|
| **JV** | |
| **Clark** | 117-46 |
| **Lake Central** | 107-79 |
| | 2-0 |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Penn** | 131-55 |
| **LaPorte** | 137-48 |
| **Crown Point** | 132-54 |
| **Highland** | 140-46 |
| **Lowell** | 132-54 |
| **Griffith** | 119-51 |
| **Valparaiso** | 135-51 |
| **Portage** | 124-62 |
| **Hammond SE Invite** | 1st |
| **Lake Central** | 95-91 |
| **Highland Invite** | 1st |
| **Gavit** | 56-29 |
| **Hammond** | 75-10 |
| **Merrillville** | 140-46 |
| **Calumet** | 136-41 |
| **Chesterton** | 126-60 |
| **Sectionals** | 1st-448 |
| State | 3rd |
| **All State** | |
| Maggie Behrens | |
| Jessica Brakulis | |
| Addison Del Rio | |
| Julie Feingold | |
| **Coach of the Year** | |
| Robin Tobias | |
| | 17-0 |
| Conference | 6-0 |

**Girls' Swim Team** *(front row)* Maya Gendlin, Amanda Garcia, Stephanie Perz, Lucia Rigo, Ashley Cook, Brett Anderson, Katie Brown, Oker Gbagi *(second row)* Jessica Brakulis, Natalie Beikairous, Julie Feingold, Sara Brown, Jenny Michalski, Abby Homans, Maggie Behrens, Christia Bieda, Joanna Biestek, Alynia Dortch *(third row)* Addison Del Rio, Becky Triemstra, Liz Hinkleman, Ashley Damjanovich, Carlyn Grow, Danielle Gillund, Rachel Gill, Kristi Smith, Ashley DeVries, Paige Popravak, Theresa Kretz *(fourth row)* Alyson Patton, Natalie Stigall, Elise Eldert, Kelley O'Brien, Lisa Rietmann, Kaitlin Bandura, Danielle Niemann, Coach Robin Tobias, Assistant Coach Jaime Stennis, Diving Coach Chuck Chelich *(back row)* Kim Dooley, Sara Soeka, Milena Janevski, Lane Wagner, Casey Webb, Kate Mikels

### different strokes

During the backstroke Maggie Behrens, freshman, practices before the Lake Central meet. Behrens placed second in her relay at State. "It really excited me for later on in my career," Behrens said. "It set the tone for the next three years and got me motivated to work even harder."

### routine race

Slicing through the water, Addison Del Rio, junior, races in the breaststroke. Del Rio performed good luck routines before she swam. "I always ate a foot-long steak and cheese [sandwich] from Subway and had a caffeine drink before I swam." Del Rio said. "I always jumped up and down nine times before I swam. It got the blood flowing. Also, I got on the block on the right for the backstroke. It seemed to give me good luck."

splish splash

Before the Lake Central meet, Lisa Rietmann, senior, practices with her teammates. "Beating Lake Central was one of the most memorable moments of the season," Rietmann said. "They came in very cocky, and we were able to shoot them down."

split second

On the second leg of the 400-yard freestyle relay, Becky Triemstra, junior, aids in a second place finish for the last event against Lake Central. "We needed to get second place to win the meet," Triemstra said. "We battled a lot with Lake Central to be the best in the area. The stands were more packed than I'd ever seen."

# making a splash

*Lady Seahorses fulfill their goals when they complete an undefeated season, win Conference and Sectionals, and place third at State*

Gathered with her teammates the night before State, Liz Hinkleman, junior, received a special note and a CD from Coach Robin Tobias, English teacher, which provided the perfect motivation to perform well at State.

"Tobias helped keep our minds focused on what it would take to do our best at State," Hinkleman said. "I gave a lot of our team's credit to him. We were close to him. He was almost like a dad."

With an undefeated season record, the team piled up 207 points at State to crack the top five by placing third, its best finish since it won in 1978.

"Being the underdog was really fun because no one was expecting us to do that well," Maggie Behrens, freshman, said. "It kind of took the pressure off. We all worked together to get that goal, and everyone did their part."

The first race of the day, the 200-yard medley relay, started the meet on a successful note and excited the girls. The team of Addison Del Rio, junior, Jessica Brakulis, sophomore, and freshmen Julie Feingold and Behrens provided the team's best score with a second place finishing time of 1:48.90. Six individual events and two other relays placed in the top eight in finals.

**BELIEVE IT**

After winning Sectionals and breaking the record for most points scored, the girls advance to State and place third

leap of faith

In mid air, Casey Webb, freshman, jumps off the diving board. Only Webb advanced to Regionals in diving. "It was unreal," Webb said. "I didn't think I'd do that well."

### Second to none

Racing to the lane's end at the Highland Dual meet, Del Rio touched the wall and realized that she shattered the record for the 200-yard individual medley, a goal she had since freshman year.

"It came out of nowhere," Del Rio said. "I had only planned on breaking it by a tenth, but I got it by two seconds. I was really excited. I had the old record taken down and got to keep it."

In addition to that record, the team beat the times in the 100-yard breaststroke, 100-yard butterfly, 200-yard medley relay, and 400-yard freestyle relay.

"I didn't expect to break a record as a freshman," Feingold said. "My goal was just to beat my times and place high at State. Breaking it was just a bonus."

With only two seniors and 25 freshmen on the team, underclassmen played a large role in the team's success, according to Del Rio.

"I loved the freshmen," Del Rio said. "They gave us so much depth. Without them we definitely wouldn't have been third, not even close."

### triumphant raise

After winning his match, co-captain Chris Herr, senior, raises his hand in victory as the referee declares him the winner. "My strategy to win was to be aggressive and get after them," Herr said. "You needed to be conditioned so you could tire them out."

### head strong

Using his strength to try and take down his competitor, Dave Estrada, junior, overpowers his opponent with the moves he had worked to perfect during practices throughout the year.

## WRESTLING

| | |
|---|---|
| **Calumet** | **46-25** |
| Lake Central | 6th |
| Tournament | |
| Calumet Invite | |
| Franklin | 8-63 |
| **Lafayette Jefferson** | **40-30** |
| Southmont | 10-51 |
| Lowell | 36-41 |
| **Floyd Central** | **40-31** |
| **East Chicago** | **55-20** |
| Highland | 27-45 |
| Munster Super-Duals | |
| **Hanover Central** | **54-15** |
| Merrillville | 18-57 |
| **Pioneer** | **45-30** |
| **Boone Grove** | **40-24** |
| **Morton** | **52-25** |
| Griffith | 18-47 |
| **Whiting** | **72-6** |
| **Bishop Noll** | **66-18** |
| LAC Tournament | 5th |
| **Clark** | **48-34** |
| LAC Super-Duals | |
| **Whiting** | **57-13** |
| **Morton** | **44-24** |
| Griffith | 19-57 |
| Lowell | 33-41 |
| Highland | 24-51 |
| Lake Central | 28-45 |
| LAC Individual Tournament | 146 |
| Sectionals | 3rd |

**Conference Champs**
Mario Zerngast
Chris Herr

**Sectional Champs**
Dave Estrada
Mario Zerngast
Chris Herr

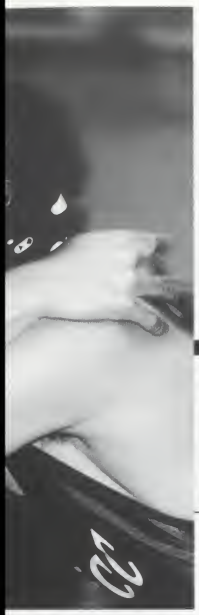
| | |
|---|---|
| **Conference** | **13-10** |
| | **7-5** |

**Wrestling Team** *(front row)* Brian Williams, Andrew Graves, Murad Omery, Tim Johnson, Jawad Omery, Erich Maul, Ian Vera *(second row)* Victor Zerngast, Mike Hughes, Steve Ziemba, Matt Coduti, Corey Greenya, Dan Lewis, Yun Tai, Sean Weichman, Greg Gier *(thrid row)* Shane Hendron, Coach Jim Colias, Phil Kompare, Brock Dickens, Zak Boswell, Don Yantich, Nick Murphy, Tom Paliga, Shawn Hendron, Toshiro Toyama, Mike Hart, Dave Estrada, Coach Dan Gelarden, Coach Brian Clark *(back row)* Andy Doesburg, Aaron Pleitner, Trevor Clippert, Adam Lerner, Chris Herr, Brian Rubesha, Dan Budilovsky, Dimitri Katsepas, Mark Balicki, David Porter

### close encounters

As he rolls over his EC Central contender, co-captain Andy Doesburg, senior, tries to make his opponent's shoulders touch the mat or gain points by executing different maneuvers. "I tried to remember everything we practiced, and I concentrated on the pointers Coach [Colias] was saying," Doesburg said.

face off
**Staring down his challenger**, co-captain Mario Zerngast, senior, focuses on taking down his opponent. **Trying to position himself** on the mat, Dan Lewis, sophomore, conjures up enough force to hold down his competitor.



# close at hand

*As injuries plague key wrestlers, team attacks season head on and qualifies eight for Regionals*

Devouring as many chicken wings as he possibly could, co-captain Chris Herr, senior, consumed 50 chicken wings in one meal and won the contest. The team dined at Hooters after the Lake Central Dual meet to recuperate after the disappointment of their performance. The outing turned into an eating frenzy.

"You know how when you got mad sometimes, all you wanted to do was eat?" Herr said. "It was like that. I did bad that day; and I had punched a locker, and my knuckles were bleeding. I remembered how the barbecue sauce was killing [my wound] as I ate."

While the pain from his hand throbbed, Herr continued to stuff his face with the chicken wings. While most team members only ate 25 wings, Herr set his sights on winning. After the discouraging meet, he continued to eat as many as he possibly could to try and win something that day, according to Herr.

"I was driving home really slow after eating all that," Herr said. "Those wings stuck with me for over three days. I couldn't really eat anything else."

### Time out

After receiving an injury time out, Dave Estrada, junior, took a two-minute break to make sure he could continue competing. Never having had an injury, Estrada couldn't believe this could happen during Sectionals.

"I wanted to get back out there and finish my match," Estrada said. "But my coach had me rub [my wrist] and take the whole two minutes to recover and make sure it was okay to continue."

With other injuries the team didn't have high hopes of performing well at Sectionals, according to Estrada.

"The team at least wrestled to their potential or above, especially when you considered the injuries we had," Coach Jim Colias said.

Despite Estrada's two hyperextended tendons in his hand and three other injured co-captains, the team came in third. In the end eight wrestlers advanced to Regionals, including those not in their best condition.

face off
As Don Yamtich, junior, wrestles with his EC Central rival, Jeremy Kelly, he faces his toughest match of the season, according to Yamtich. Yamtich won by one point. "Physically he was a really strong wrestler," Yamtich said. "It was like a dog fight between us. There really wasn't too much technique used in the match."

**BELIEVE IT**

Team posts season's best performance at Conference

### double trouble

In hopes of completing a double play, co-captain Aaron Cameron, senior, follows through on a throw to first base. "My mindset going in was to not worry about my struggles and to try to have fun," Cameron said.

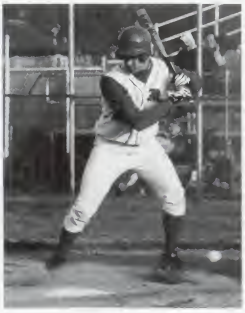
**Varsity Baseball Team (front** *row)* Pat Winterhaler, Brandon Platt, Russ Petersen, Jon Caddick, Matt Jillson, Brian Hayes, Mike Kalina *(second row)* David York, Kyle Martinez, David Noel, Bryan Bokowy, Aaron Cameron, Matt Gornal, Scott Starewicz, Vic Ancich *(back row)* Coach Jeff Rosen, Coach Matt Backs, Tony Spinosa, Mike Penman, Adam Del Rio, Rick Balkam, Coach Marty Keil, Coach Bob Shinkan, Coach Mike Mikolajczyk

**JV Baseball Team** *(front row)* Brent Banach, Paul Malayter, Mike Nowak, Mike Hawryszkow, Josh Caddick, Zak Boswell *(back row)* Ross Petersen, Kevin Strbjak, Jonathan Benedek, Coach Matt Backs, Nate Holobowski, Adam Grunewald, Matt DeRolf

**Freshman Baseball Team** *(front row)* Ferdi Medina, Jake Kunz, Alex Toth, Billy Stuart, Matt Donnowitz, Chris Bakker *(back row)* Jake Ernd, Tim Lukoshus, Matt Westerlund, Coach Mike Mikolajczyk, Mike Sealy, Andrew Bilse, Mike Jones

### hitting the dirt

After diving to field a base hit, Mike Penman (17), junior, watches as the ball just slides past first base.



### poised at the plate

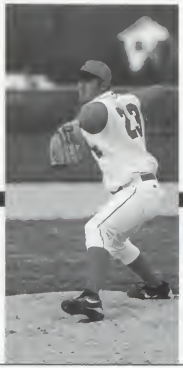
Keeping his eyes on the pitcher and allowing the ball to fly past, Adam Del Rio (23), holds back his swing before the ball hits the dirt in the game against the River Forest Ignots.

### too close for comfort

With his eyes squinted to avoid the flying dust, co-captain Aaron Cameron, senior, puts out his mitt to tag out the sliding opponent. "Everyday was a different game for us," Cameron said.

eye-balling it

**As he winds up,** Adam Del Rio, senior, concentrates to pitch another strike to get another Morton opponent out. **As the ball sails** over the plate, Dave Noel, senior, decides to take the pitch. "It was a totally different atmosphere on varsity," Noel said. "I was tried to fit in where I could on the team."



# suddenly thrown off balance

*Losing seven starters to graduation, JV and varsity struggle to pull team together*

With an eye on the clock, Dave Noel, senior, waited for the championship game of the annual Mustang Classic tournament to begin. The team had earned their way into the finals against Highland; but a scheduling problem placed the tournament on the same day as Prom.

With the Grand March starting at 4:45, p.m. and the game not starting until 4:30, Noel had to chose between the game and his Prom. He and six other varsity players chose the Prom. Right after the first inning, Noel and the others headed home to quickly shower and change.

"I didn't want to leave," Noel said. "It was the Mustang Classic, and we hadn't won in years. We were playing Highland in a championship, and it was a game you didn't want to miss; but I would have felt bad if my date didn't have pictures of her senior Prom."

Noel and his teammates made their way out of the locker room at 5 p.m. in their baseball uniforms as many Prom-goers started filtering into the Grand March. With less than 20 minutes to change into his tux, Noel hurried home. Showering and throwing on his tux, Noel screamed at the radio, cheering on the two back-to-back home runs scored by juniors Scott Starewicz and Pat Winterhaler. With four out of their five top hitters gone, everyone had to step up and help capture their 11-4 victory against Highland, according to Starewicz.

**BELIEVE IT**

Co-captain Mike Kalina, senior, ties the school record for most doubles in a single season

### Rising to the occasion

At the top of the first inning with Matt Gornal, senior, waiting on first base, co-captain Aaron Cameron, senior, marched up to the plate. Cameron cracked his bat on Highland pitcher Bill Mezten's very first pitch. As the ball soared over the fence, Cameron took off for first, bringing himself and Gornal home.

"I didn't think that Highland had any respect for us because they put their number two pitcher in instead of their number one pitcher," Cameron said. "As soon as I hit it, I knew it was going to go over the fence. It could have been the last time we played them; and with the school rivalry, I wanted to go out with a bang."

With a 4-0 lead into the second inning, the crowd went wild cheering for the team; but Highland came back to answer the call and

*(continued on page 150)*

# suddenly thrown off balance

**caught red handed**
Lining up his mitt, co-captain Aaron Cameron, senior, goes for the ball in order to get out a runner on his way to second base. "Our strength was in our ability to play well together as a team," Cameron said. "We all got along; we enjoyed each other's company. It helped when you could trust one another on the playing field."

*continued from page 149*

[redacted] silence the crowd as they tied the score 4-4. Ending the rally, Cameron in his second large play of the night smashed a base hit up the middle in the fifth inning, allowing the team to score an insurance run. Mike Kalina, senior, increased the lead in the top of the seventh inning by scoring a run and bringing the score to 6-4.

At the bottom of the seventh, pitcher David York, senior, had the responsibility of holding onto the win. York retired the side by striking out the next three batters to snatch the win for the team. The Mustangs proved to the crowd and Highland that they could win against a big rival, according to York.

"When I got in, I just tried to pitch my heart out in the seventh inning, and luckily no one hit off me," York said. "It felt great. Two hours after the game I was still pumped up from the victory."

### Pinch hitting

After loosing seven seniors the previous year, the team had to work through obstacles to find a set line-up. With only three varsity starters returning, the team counted on the leadership and hard work to pull the team together, according to York.

"We needed to fill in the leadership that moved on and Gornal, Kalina, and Cameron filled in that hole," York said. "They had leadership and took responsibility for the team."

**BELIEVE IT**

Senior co-captains Mike Kalina and Aaron Cameron make *Times* All Area First Team

As reigning State 4A champions, the team focused their goals on returning, even with a younger team, according to Kalina.

"We of course had the same goals, but we had to take one game at a time," Kalina said.

**full force**
Winding up and ready to release, Adam Del Rio (23), senior, uses all his energy to strike out the Morton opponent. According to co-captain Mike Kalina, senior, Del Rio improved the most during the season.

**down and out**
As his Morton opponent slides back to first base after trying to steal second, Mike Penman (17), junior, puts out his mitt in hopes to tag out his opponent. "One of the perks of being at first base was when a pitcher was trying to pick off a runner," Penman said. "I really liked those."

## BASEBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRESHMEN** | |
| **Lake Central** | 12-6 |
| **Andrean** | 13-1 |
| **Griffith** | 13-1 |
| **Calumet** | 5-1 |
| **Lowell** | 10-0 |
| **Lowell** | 23-11 |
| Highland | 6-12 |
| **Morton** | 12-1 |
| **Crown Point** | 13-5 |
| **Clark** | 5-3 |
| Highland | 2-3 |
| **Portage** | 4-0 |
| **Portage** | 15-5 |
| **Boone Grove** | 11-1 |
| **Boone Grove** | 10-0 |
| **East Chicago** | 16-6 |
| **Morton** | 12-1 |
| | **15-2** |
| **JV** | |
| **Griffith** | 6-3 |
| **Portage** | 5-2 |
| **Lowell** | 9-6 |
| **Kankakee Valley** | 12-1 |
| Clark | 14-16 |
| **Bishop Noll** | 18-6 |
| **Kankakee Valley** | 7-2 |
| **Gavit** | 11-0 |
| **Griffith** | 18-8 |
| **Merrillville** | 10-3 |
| **Highland** | 11-1 |
| **Andrean** | 6-2 |
| **Wheeler** | 2-1 |
| **Crown Point** | 4-1 |
| **Crown Point** | 9-8 |
| Lake Central | 5-6 |
| **Boone Grove** | 8-0 |
| **Chesterton** | 4-3 |
| | **16-2** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **River Forest** | 15-0 |
| **Griffith** | 9-7 |
| **Portage** | 7-6 |
| Lowell | 11-12 |
| **Morton** | 6-0 |
| **N.Newton** | 9-5 |
| Clark | 3-4 |
| **Boone Grove** | 13-5 |
| Bishop Noll | 1-6 |
| **Kankakee Valley** | 7-3 |
| **Crown Point** | 4-2 |
| **Highland** | 11-4 |
| **Gavit** | 21-2 |
| **Hammond** | 22-0 |
| **Lake Central** | 4-6 |
| **Lake Station** | 8-1 |
| Griffith | 0-1 |
| **Whiting** | 7-0 |
| **Calumet** | 9-1 |
| **Highland** | 6-4 |
| Andrean | 2-3 |
| **Crown Point** | 5-4 |
| LAC Tourney | |
| **Whiting** | 4-3 |
| Andrean | lost |
| Highland | 6-7 |
| Kankakee Valley | 5-4/7th |
| Sectionals | |
| Lake Central | 9-6 (eight innings) |
| **All Conference** | |
| ***Times* All Area** | |
| Mike Kalina | |
| Aaron Cameron | |
| | **20-10** |
| **Conference** | **8-5** |

### ready and waiting

With his eyes on home base, co-captain Mike Kalina, senior, waits for an opportunity to move to third base. "On the field [the team] got along great," Kalina said. "Baseball and the fact that we were on the team seemed to unite a lot of us off the field."

### off and running

Watching the pitches at home base, Ricky Balkam, senior, inches away from first base, waiting for an opportunity to steal second.

### peanut gallery

Lined up against the fence in the dugout, the team watches the ongoing plays. After seven seniors graduated from the previous season, upperclassmen had to step it up to fill in the missing spots, according to co-captain Mike Kalina, senior.

### batter up

In mid-swing, Russ Petersen (12), junior, lines up his bat in order to crack the ball and get a base hit. The team shut out Morton 6-0.

### mid-air

Stepping over her Wheeler opponent, co-captain Samantha Seligman, senior, tags out the runner as struggles to maintain her balance and throws to first base for the double play. "You had to get down low so you would have a better chance of tagging the girl," Seligman said. "It was often difficult to manuver."

### safety first

Heading into first base, Samantha Seligman slides in under the mit of her Crown Point opponent. Unlike others Seligman slid head first because of a torn ACL. she suffered from previously sliding feet first. "It was quite an adredaline rush, I didn't concentrate on the pain–only on being safe," Seligman said.

**Varsity Softball Team** *(front row)* Mary Ann Spolnik, Jackie Yerga, Erica Stout, Lori Andjelich, Tammy Jones, *(second row)* Christina Domenico, Nicole Enright, Holly Ispas, Dani Blair, Amy Parker, Samantha Seligman *(back row)* Manager Alana Salata, Sarah Stockle, Samantha Skaggs, Coach Beth Vesa, Mary Heaney, Stefanie Andjelich, Coach Mike Coil

**JV Softball Team** *(front row)* Lori Andjelich, Kathryn Vroom, Emily Beezhold, Anna Stariha, Rachel Myszak *(second row)* Katie Korem Jackie Yerga, Kaitlin Korem, Libbie Thompson, Amanda Seligman, Mary Ann Spolnik *(back row)* Jackie Yerga, Elizabeth Puterko, Coach Mike Coil, Sharon Lee, Molly Yothment

### return throw

Right behind the plate, Dani Blair, sophomore, throws the ball back to the pitcher after the umpire calls a strike.

**good eye**
**As Ashley Velchek, senior,** tracks the incoming pitch, she holds off swinging at the ball. "We had problems with dropping our back shoulder [while batting]; the team did practice drills to try and break the bad habit," Velchek said. **Pulling back her arm** in prepartaion to return a ball to the infield, Nicole Enright, sophomore, looks for the shortstop to throw to.

# closer slide to the finish

*Playing with an aggressive attitude, Softball slides through the season with winning record*

Making a dive for the eraser during a game of Steal the Bacon, Sarah Stockle, junior, and co-captain Sam Skaggs, senior, tossed the eraser across the gym floor to a teammate. Taking a break from the routine practice with a fun game, Coach Beth Vesa, math teacher, made the losing team run laps. The game suddenly took a more competitive turn.

"Hidden personalities came out," co-captain Samantha Seligman, senior, said. "You never thought you'd see Sarah and Sam so aggressive. They were tackling each other or chasing someone down."

The game of Steal the Bacon seemed to turn into a game of football. Coach Vesa called out numbers, and the girls ran to the middle and grabbed an eraser. The team laughed so hard that they rolled on the ground practically crying, according to Mary Heaney, senior.

### Coaching switch-up

Listening intently to the words of advice of Coach Vesa as she explained to the team that everyone would get a chance to perform and prove themselves, members accepted the challenge, according to Ashley Velchek, senior. With a new coach for the Girls Softball Team, they looked forward to the energy Coach Vesa could bring to the team, according to co-captain Stephanie Andjelich, junior.

"She made us a lot more aggressive," Andjelich, junior, said. "Vesa knew the game really well and did a good job of moving people into positions to win."

As the team continued to win games, they encountered a challenge during the Munster Invite after losing their games 1-2. Though feeling upset, Coach Vesa continued to encourage them that they would bounce back and win their next game, according to Andjelich.

"A lot was different during practices; we had a friendship with her," Erica Stork, freshman, said. "She knew us well and had a great personality. On the field she was a great coach and off the field was a great friend."

**BELIEVE IT**

The girls break the school record by winning 75.9% of their season games

### Ice cream queen

Joining each other for ice cream, the team often met at

*(continued on page 154)*

**serious stragedies**
Together in a huddle, the girls listen to advice from Coach Beth Vesa, math teacher. "She always said you might not get many great pitches at bat, so we needed to take advantage of what we got," Amy Parker said.

# closer slide to the finish

**mad dash**
In a sprint toward home plate, Sarah Stockle, junior, takes off from third base to score one for the team. "You were really concentrating on being safe and scoring," Stockle said. "Everyone realized how important every single run was."

the Frozen Yogurt Express after several practices. One night when Skaggs saw co-captain Amy Parker, senior, devour her chunky monkey order, she challenged her to an eating contest.

*continued from page 153*

The race took place after their game on senior night. Christina Domenico, sophomore, and Nicole Enright, sophomore, made signs cheering for Skaggs. The winner had to eat the most in an hour.

"It was really cold that day, so we were sitting around shivering the whole time," Parker said.

Eating quickly and fighting off the cold, Skaggs finished a bowl of chunky monkey and began the second. Eventually, however, Parker won the race by finishing two chunky monkeys first.

"After I finished mine, I got the chance to antagonize her," Parker said. "It was a little painful, and I felt kind of sick; but she thought she was going to win, and I proved her wrong."

### Team motto

After breaking out of their huddle for the next inning, the girls all screamed "fatty style," despite the strange looks they received from the other team. Those words turned into a superstition that the team believed would help them win, according to co-captain Mary Heaney, senior.

"It started after practice," Heaney said. "We were discussing our next game, and someone asked how we're going to win. I yelled, 'we should win fatty style.' Everyone caught on, and they started saying it."

**BELIEVE IT**

Softball finishes on a high note by breaking a previous year's record with 72 stolen bases for the season

To win "fatty style" meant to win big, and the phrase served as good luck. At the Andrean game, the team forgot to say the phrase and lost. From then on, saying the phrase served as an essential part of each game.

**on base**
Bending down at third base, Sarah Stockle, junior, focuses her attention on the play. "To play third base you had to be ready for every ball that came at you," Stockle said. "It kept you on your toes at all times."

**all the way home**
Darting towards home base, Dani Blair, freshman, heads in for a run. Blair broke the record for most runs scored throughout the season. "Every run scored got us one step closer to winning the game," Blair said.

### intense curve

Throwing a curve ball, Lori Andjelich, sophomore, tries to make it difficult for the batter to hit the ball up the middle. "My curve ball really improved this year and proved to be effective throught the season," Andjelich said.

## SOFTBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRESHMEN** | |
| **Morton** | **7-1** |
| Lake Station | 2-3 |
| **Argo** | **5-0** |
| **Argo** | **13-0** |
| **Marian** | **8-0** |
| | **4-1** |
| **JV** | |
| **Lowell** | **7-1** |
| **Lowell** | **3-2** |
| **Crown Point** | **5-0** |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **13-0** |
| **Merrillville** | **8-0** |
| **Merrillville** | **11-0** |
| **Hobart** | **11-3** |
| **Bishop Noll** | **9-4** |
| **Hanover Central** | **11-0** |
| **Crown Point** | **4-0** |
| **North Newton** | **9-4** |
| | **11-0** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Clinton Prairie** | **13-3** |
| **Laffeyette Jefferson** | **3-1** |
| Andrean | 0-2 |
| **Lowell** | **11-0** |
| **Wheeler** | **5-4** |
| **Morton** | **8-0** |
| **Kankakee Valley** | **9-0** |
| **Clark** | **7-0** |
| **Hobart** | **2-0** |
| **Bishop Noll** | **3-1** |
| **Carmel Tournament** | |
| **Bloomington North** | **5-0** |
| **North Putnam** | **8-0** |
| **Evansville North** | **3-2** |
| **Gavit** | **6-0** |
| **Griffith** | **8-0** |
| **Chesterton** | **6-2** |
| **Lake Station** | **9-0** |
| **Crown Point** | **3-2** |
| **Whiting** | **2-0** |
| **Merrillville** | **5-4** |
| **Calumet** | **10-0** |
| Munster Invite | |
| **John Glenn** | **8-1** |
| Harrison | 1-2 |
| Pendelton Heights | 1-2 |
| Highland | 0-2 |
| **St. Francis deSales** | **1-0** |
| Portage | 1-7 |
| Sectionals | |
| Lake Central | 0-2 |
| **All Conference** | |
| Richelle Medellin | |
| Dana Sarber | |
| Richelle Medellin | |
| | **22-7** |
| **Conference** | **11-2** |

### split save

With one foot on first base, Tamara Jones, senior, stretches for the ball, hoping to get her opponent out. "You had to always remain alert and move quickly," Tamara said.

### show of sportmanship

Following typical post-game etiquette, the girls congratulate the Crown Point Bulldogs a good game. This show of sportsmanship meant they accepted whether they won or lost, according to Molly Yothment, freshman.

### catch of the day

Crouching down to catch the incoming ball, Erika Stout, sophomore, gives the pitcher a target. "I loved catching because you were always involved in the game and you had control over every play," Stout said.

### wind back

Bringing the ball behind her, Lori Andjelich, sophomore, aims her next pitch. "I concentrated on how to throw the pitch so the batter couldn't hit it down the middle of the field," Andjelich said.

### rough crowd

At home plate the referee holds up his finger and calls Sami Seligman, senior, out. "It was rough when the crowd was watching," Seligman said. "They felt the same disappointment."

## in the hunt

Eyes focused on his target, foreign exchange student Chris Hansson, senior, prepares to chip the ball. "When I came [to America], it was like my dream come true because we didn't have school teams in Sweden," Hansson said.

## BOYS' GOLF

| | |
|---|---|
| **JV** | |
| **Lowell** | **208-209** |
| **Crown Point** | **182-184** |
| Lake Central | 178-163 |
| **Griffith** | **166-218** |
| Highland | 194-189 |
| | **3-2** |
| **VARSITY** | |
| Andrean/Bishop Noll | 2nd/164 |
| **Lowell** | **164-185** |
| **Morton** | **151-181** |
| **Lake Central** | **1st/154** |
| **Crown Point** | **150-177** |
| **Lake Central** | **154-159** |
| **Griffith** | **155-184** |
| **Hammond** | **172-267** |
| KV Invite | 2nd |
| **Lake Station** | **149-228** |
| Highland/Clark | 2nd/173 |
| **Whiting** | **156-229** |
| Renssalear Invite | 3rd/312 |
| **Calumet** | **148-192** |
| **Gavit** | **153-213** |
| Lake Central Invite | 4th/320 |
| **Wheeler** | **153-174** |
| LAC Tourney | **1st/309** |
| Sectionals | **1st/306** |
| Regionals | 3rd/314 |
| State | 15th/622 (72 holes) |
| **All Conference** | |
| Shaun Dunn | |
| Chris Hansson | |
| Ryan Miller | |
| Joey Piatek | |
| Tim Piatek | |
| | **14-2** |
| **Conference** | **10-2** |

## bag of tricks

In the tee box, Ryan Miller, senior, drives the ball. "Golf was a funny sport where you reached a point where it was hard to advance any further in skill," Miller said. "It was hard to stay consistent. You might shoot a 36 one day and a 42 the next. It took dedication to be good."

**Boys' Golf Team** *(front row)* Mike McNicholas, Ryan Miller, Mack Rawden, Mike Shinkan, Mike Tiberi, Tim Wasem, Mark Boeckman *(back row)* Shaun Dunn, Chad Holajter, Chris Hansson, Joey Piatek, Coach Brian Clark, Adam Kaufman, Tim Piatek, Tim Bishop

## tee for two

During a Wicker Park afternoon practice, Coach Brian Clark asks co-captain Tim Piatek, senior, about the layout of the hole. "[Coach Clark] was always there for motivation and keeping our spirits up," Piatek said. Piatek went on to earn All Conference for the fourth consecutive year.

## the space between

Right next to the hole, Joey Piatek, sophomore, concentrates on tapping it in as Ryan Miller, senior, watches. Joey shot a 74 to earn Medalist Honors at the Lake Hills Sectionals, as the team beat Lake Central by seven strokes, 306-316, to earn their fourth consecutive Sectional title.

**seeing green**
**In the proper position,** Shaun Dunn, senior, prepares to putt the ball. **Shooting the breeze during** practice, Joey Piatek, sophomore, and seniors Chris Hansson and Ryan Miller wait for their turn to tee off.

# steadily chipping toward State

*Boys' Golf relies on senior depth to advance to State Finals*

After an entire morning of rain, co-captain Tim Piatek, senior, finished his third hole when lightening struck. The adverse weather forced the team to undergo a two-hour delay at the Rensselaer Invite.

"Playing well was about how focused you were at the game since the conditions were so bad," Tim said.

After deciding to stay, the team entertained themselves on the bus during the delay to relieve the stress of waiting.

"The five of us sat and talked about anything that didn't have to do with golf to stay off the topic," Tim said. "We needed to stay loose and not dwell on it. We had some masculine conversation instead. You couldn't think about golf for seven straight hours or you'd go nuts."

Even with the delay, the team placed third. With a score of 312, they finished just one stroke below second and put forth the best score attained at Curtis Creek in the past few years, according to Coach Brian Clark, English teacher.

**BELIEVE IT**

Boys' Golf shoots school-record 304 to advance to final round at State

### Far from home

On the eighth green during a Wicker Park practice, Chris Hansson, senior, raised his club when a driver at the Indianapolis Blvd. stoplight yelled, "Hey, nice pants!"

Donning his European style, Hansson, a Swedish exchange student, entertained the team with a pair of his pink golf pants his parents sent to America.

"I came here without them because I heard in America pink was something girls wore," Hansson said. "In Sweden pink was popular. I liked to dress differently, so I thought they were funny and cool. No one looked down on me. We all had fun and never belittled each other."

At the Morton match, Hansson wore the pants again and met both compliments and strange looks. The team accepted the new player quickly and enjoyed his humorous personality, according to Joey Piatek, sophomore.

"You'd expect from a foreigner that the last thing they'd grasp was humor, but he was really funny," Joey said.

Hansson proved an especially valuable asset to the team because he provided a fifth varsity player to help accumulate four consistent scores in the 30s necessary at every match, according to Ryan Miller, senior.

"Chris helped us tremendously," Miller said. "He had the nicest looking swing and very sound mechanics. He was the most consistent ball striker on the team."

## quick thinking

Concentrating on the play, Ryann Perlinski, junior, gets ready to hit the ball over the net. "Working with the new coach proved to be a blessing since he helped all of us improve so much," Perlinski said.

## volley girl

Keeping a volley going, Celia Gonzalez, senior, hits the ball back to her opponent.

## GIRLS' TENNIS

| | |
|---|---|
| **JV** | |
| **Lowell** | 5-0 |
| **Crown Point** | 4-1 |
| **Bishop Noll** | 4-0 |
| **Highland** | 5-0 |
| **Andrean** | 4-1 |
| **Lake Central** | 8-5 |
| **Lake Station** | 4-0 |
| **South Bend St. Joe** | 4-1 |
| **Valparaiso** | 4-1 |
| Plymouth | 4-7 |
| | 9-0 |
| **Conference** | 6-0 |
| **VARSITY** | |
| **Lowell** | 3-2 |
| **Crown Point** | 3-2 |
| **Gavit** | 5-0 |
| **Bishop Noll** | 5-0 |
| Carmel Invite | 7th |
| **Highland** | 5-0 |
| Merrillville Doubles | 5th |
| **Andrean** | 3-2 |
| **Lake Central** | 3-2 |
| **Lake Station** | 5-0 |
| Penn | 2-3 |
| **LAC Tournament** | |
| **Kankakee Valley** | 5-0 |
| **Highland** | 3-0 |
| **Lowell** | 3-1 |
| **South Bend St. Joe** | 5-0 |
| **Valparaiso** | 3-2 |
| **Plymouth** | 3-2 |
| Sectionals | |
| **Gavit** | 5-0 |
| **Morton** | 5-0 |
| **Bishop Noll** | 5-0 |
| Highland Regional | |
| **Crown Point** | 3-2 |
| **Lake Central** | 3-2 |
| Semi State | |
| **Michigan City** | 3-2 |
| Penn | 4-1 |
| | 20-2 |
| **Conference** | 6-0 |

**JV Girls' Tennis:** *(front row)* Saba Ahmed, Cara Witecki, Marnan Campos, Michelle Jones *(second row)* Dijita Sundi, Booram Ur, Taryn Lotak, Shobha Pai, Marijana Repac, Jayme Jedrzejczak, Rohini Chatterjee *(back row)* Coach Bob Modesto, Lisa Krismanick, Katie Lissy, Lauren Cherrier, Julie Bembenista, Joanna Biestek, Kim Hawkins, Coach Bill Karr

**Varsity Girls' Tennis:** *(front row)* Stephanie Coulis, Lindsay Weiss, Nikki Bland, Jill Young *(back row)* Coach Bill Karr, Ryann Perlinski, Celia Gonzalez, Mirjana Lakich, Coach Bob Modesto, Coach Pat Leser

## double vision

To keep the opponent on her feet, Mirjana Lakich, senior, taps the ball over the net as her partner, Ryann Perlinski, junior, prepares to help. "This year was different than my two previous years had been," Perlinski said. "The team was more together and functioned better as a whole, which made all the year round preparation worthwhile," Perlinski said.

## follow through

Getting the ball over the net, Jill Young, junior, follows the volley through with a backhand stroke.

scoremaster

**Flipping the score cards during a match, Lindsay Weiss, freshman, changes sides with her opponent. "It felt so great to win," Weiss said. "I've been playing tennis for so long, and I was thrilled when I found out that I had made varsity." In the middle of the point, Nikki Bland, junior, smacks a forehand over the net. With only two seniors on varsity this year, the underclassmen's expertise played a part in the team's success.**

# underclassmen power past notions

*Under a new coach's direction, the team plays on its strengths all the way to Semi State*

While walking away from one of the tennis team's pre-season Saturday morning meetings in tears, Dijita Sundi, junior, heard somebody calling her name. She turned around and saw that her coach [redacted] tried to get her attention.

Coach Bob Modesto knew what a good team needed to succeed and always had a piece of advice to give; however, since he did not work at the school, sometimes getting that advice turned into more of a challenge then in previous years, according to Sundi.

"If we had a question for him or a problem that we wanted to discuss, we couldn't always just stop by his room and consult him like we were able to do with other coaches," Sundi said.

Following their pre-season conversation, both Coach Modesto and Sundi knew what she needed to do in order to letter and worked together to make sure she achieved her goal.

### Seeing double

Given the opportunity to play in the Merrillville Doubles Tournament, Celia Gonzalez, senior, jumped at that chance to play.

"I loved playing doubles since I played singles for most of the season," Gonzalez said. "It let me use [my previous] year's experience."

As she beat her two toughest opponents from Andrean with her partner Mirjana Lakich, senior, Gonzalez's confidence rose. She realized that all her pre- and early-season work hadn't gone to waste, and knew she could not have done this alone, according to Gonzalez.

"This season was different from any of my previous seasons," Gonzalez said. "With help from my coach and with the teamwork the team displayed, I was able to make this season the best ever."

### Family feast

Over a table teeming with plates of salad and baskets of chicken fingers at The Emporium in Ft. Wayne, a group of smiling girls and their families talked about the day. Following their 5-0 win against South Bend St. Joe, the team decided to celebrate by going out to eat together.

"We were all in really good moods," Lindsay Weiss, freshman, said. "Being the only freshman on varsity, going out to eat let me get to know my teammates better."

**BELIEVE IT**

With their 28th Sectional win, the team sets a state record for most Sectional titles

### stop and go

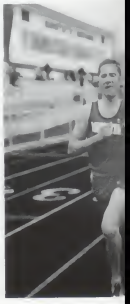
Handing off the baton during the 4x800 relay race, Don Yamtich, junior, and Dustin Moriarty, senior, work together to stay ahead of the competition. "Right before I ran, I told myself that I could do it," Yamtich said. "I knew that I needed to find that kick inside of me that showed everyone else who wanted it more."

### let it fly

As he confidently prepares to hurl the discus across the field, Chris Herr, senior, musters up strength as he spins in the discus pit. As a shot put and discus thrower in all his four years of high school, Herr used his experience to overcome his nerves. "I didn't get nervous before competitions," Herr said. "I went into them thinking that I could do well."

## BOYS' TRACK

| | |
|---|---|
| **VARSITY** | |
| LAC | 4th |
| Crown Point/Lake Central/Highland | 4th |
| Clark/Lowell | 2nd |
| **Hammond/Morton/ Kankakee Valley** | **1st** |
| Chesterton Invite | |
| **Andrean/Griffith** | **1st** |
| Highland/Calumet | 2nd |
| Mustang Invite | 3rd |
| Calumet Invite | 4th |
| LAC Meet | 4th |
| LAC Reserve Meet | 2nd |
| Sectionals | 4th |
| Regional Qualifiers | |
| Don Yamtich: 800 m | |
| Chris Herr: shot-put | |
| 4x8 Relay | |
| **First Team All Conference** | |
| Don Yamtich | |
| | **8-5** |
| **Conference** | **7-1** |



**Boys' Varsity Track** *(front row)* Coach Steve Lopez, Dustin Moriarty, Tom Barnes, Robbie Collins, Chris Herr, Lee Murphy, Maxwell Ntiamoah, Coach Aaron Brown, Coach Brian Vance *(second row)* Don Yamtich, Billy Lewis, David Resler, Bart Banach, Phil Kompare, Bryan Adams, Matt Baker, Tom Burek, Jia Hou, Robbie Larson, George Behrens, Jim Knesek *(third row)* Greg Gier, Jordan Barnes, Eric Wallace, Harjot Singh, Brian Rubesha, Chris Selent, Mark Balicki, Kyle Becich, Jon Fisher, Aaron Pleitner, Brian Schmidt *(fourth row)* Ken Florek, Andrew Kitchell, Jason Specyal, Ena Akoforo, Joel Barnes, Phil Shapiro, Mark Everette, Gabriel Blakeley, Manager Dan Rak *(last row)* Erich Maul, Nick Volkman, Nick Benedek, David McWilliams, Matt Skertich, Tom Paliga, Grant Felgenhauer, Ian Vera, Nick Shelton, Niko Culic, Danny White

home stretch
As he awaits instructions for the start of his relay competition, Bryan Adams, junior, stretches his arms. "I usually get nervous before my races," Adams said. "After I ran my first event, I started to feel better." Inching his way above the bar, Mark Balicki, sophomore, makes a leap of faith in his long-jump event.

# within throwing distance

*Under a new head coach, Boys' Track struggles to find inspiration to break past their obstacles*

Pumping himself up for an upcoming competition, Chris Herr, senior, repeated encouraging thoughts to himself. He worried about the Chesterton Invite because of the reputation surrounding Chesterton's fierce competition.

"This meet was different because I didn't know my opponents well," Herr said. "For my previous competitions, I had gotten a chance to get to know them and their techniques. This time I was kind of blind. I'd only read about how tough they were in the newspapers."

Whether team members used self-motivation or gained encouragement from their closest friends, they found their own motivational techniques to get their heads in the game. Don Yamtich, junior, sought support and encouragement from his friends as well as his close relatives.

"They were excellent," Yamtich said. "My dad never missed a meet. I couldn't have asked for anything better."

take your time
As he approaches the end of his race, Billy Lewis, junior, strides across the finish line while Andrew Moffit, junior, records his time. The team often helped by recording the times and encouraging each other to break their personal records.

**BELIEVE IT**

Shocking the crowd during the pole vault event, Greg Gier, sophomore, broke his pole in three places

### Shiny New Start

Gathered around his teammates, Bryan Adams, junior, waited as Head Coach Aaron Brown, Wilbur Wright Middle School teacher, announced the team member that would win a McDonald's gift certificate. Coach Brown started the new tradition of giving out certificate rewards for accomplishing such tasks as breaking individual personal records or showing strong improvement in competitions.

"[The previous] year's Coach [Ed] Woodrick gave out a 'shiny new dime' to people that did well," Adams said. "These things gave me an incentive to run my best at every meet."

Along with reward changes, the boys faced a new obstacle this year. With the death of Mr. Woodrick over the summer, Coach Brown took over the head position.

"Losing Coach Woody was a big loss for us seniors," Robbie Collins, senior, said. "He was such a great guy.

In the face of such a huge loss, Adams saw the changes in practice routines and organization helpful.

"Somehow it felt more like a team," Adams said.

# passing hurdles to find their pace

*Qualifying members for Semi State, Girls' Track finishes record breaking season*

**charge ahead**
**Racing toward the finish** line, Lisa Rietmann, senior, carries the baton in her relay race. **Sprinting across the track,** Amanda Shike, junior, starts to pick up her pace. "Running in track was such an awesome experience because the competition between people was so high," Shike said.

Waiting for the signal to begin her run, Julie Bassetto, junior, visualized her long jump. At the sound of the judge's voice, Bassetto sprinted toward the sandpit.

As she neared the line, she leaped smoothly into the air. Upon landing Bassetto fell into the sandpit and felt a pain in her knee. She realized her kneecap gave out during her landing.

"It was devastating for this to happen to me at the peak of the season," Bassetto said. "I fell behind at the most crucial time before Sectionals and farther. It made my goals harder to reach."

Bassetto's recovery required stretches and exercises that worked her knee joints for more than 10 days. The team substituted other members in her positions to fill the requirements for the team.

"I wanted to be running and jumping to help my team win, which made recovery hard," Bassetto said. "It made things crazy because the team was used to a pattern of runners, and it changed."

Bassetto sat out for part of the season, but focused on her tasks and duties for the team. Bassetto returned to jumping just in time to aid her team in their Sectional competition.

**BELIEVE IT**

With a time of 9:57 time, the 3200-meter relay team broke three meet records by a full second

**Road to Victory**

Panting as she ran down the track, Suzy Quasny, junior, crossed the finish line to complete the 3200-meter relay at the Calumet Invite. Out of breath, the team met the judges for their times.

The judges announced the results, and the team realized they broke the standing record of 9:58 by one second. They cheered with happiness and celebrated, according to Quasny.

"It was an adrenaline rush realizing we achieved this victory," Quasny said. "We started hugging each other and congratulating our team on a great job. Everyone competed at their potential knowing there was no time to waste."

Each leg of the four-person team came in with her best time, allowing them to accomplish their goals.

"We encouraged each other to run at our full potential," Quasny said. "With people screaming and cheering, I was inspired to run faster."

The relay team continued to challenge other records in future meets throughout the season. Due to their success, the motivational words spoken before each competition changed: Victory is ours.

### leap frog

Leaping through the air, Julie Bassetto, junior, hurdles over the obstacles. "Hurdling was different than jumping for me," Bassetto said. "Hurdles had a higher level of competition than jumping, and the adrenaline rush was like no other."

## GIRLS' TRACK

| | |
|---|---|
| **VARSITY** | |
| Merrillville Indoor | 2nd |
| **LAC Indoor** | **1st-123** |
| Valparaiso | 28-95 |
| **Lowell/Crown Point** | **1st-85.5** |
| **Hammond/Morton/ Kankakee Valley** | **1st-102** |
| **Andrean/Griffith** | **1st-89** |
| **Highland/Calumet** | **1st-92** |
| **Munstang Invite** | **1st** |
| **Calumet Invite** | **1st** |
| **LAC Meet** | **1st-154** |
| **All Conference** | |
| **3200 Meter Relay** | |
| Peach Roman-Lagunas | |
| Amanda Shike | |
| Christia Bieda | |
| Suzy Quasny | |
| **100 Meter Run** | |
| Ashley DeVries | |
| **200 Meter Run** | |
| Ashley DeVries | |
| **400 Meter Relay** | |
| Brittany Bohling | |
| Sam Korda | |
| Lauren Lipton | |
| Ashley DeVries | |
| **1600 Meter Relay** | |
| Peach Roman-Lagunas | |
| Kara Clark | |
| Suzy Quasny | |
| Ashley DeVries | |
| **Discus** | |
| Melissa Obszanski | |
| | **12-1** |
| **Conference** | **10-0** |

### around the bend

With the curve ahead, Jennie Jamicich, freshman, carries the baton for her relay. "Relays helped us work together as a team because everyone contributed to the success of the run," Jamicich said. "Each person added a portion of time."

### speed racer

Sprinting to the finish line, Brittany Bohling, sophomore, passes her opponent in the 100 meter run. "Races were such an adrenaline rush for me to be in," Bohling said. "If you were not ready to push yourself to the limit, it was hard to always race at your full potential."

**Girls' Varsity Track** *(front row)* Soumya Gupta, Tamiko Toyama, Emily Clark, Brittany Lewis, Alex Ruich, Christia Bieda, Lindsey Steele, Lisa Rietmann *(second row)* Ms. Patty Pfister, Danielle Fuentes, Gina Christopher, Theresa Kretz, Heather Haneman, Emily Alberti, Justine Bauer, Sam Korda, Julia Konopasek, Nikki Williamson, Kelly McWilliams *(third row)* Lauren Lipton, Suzy Quasny, Erin Joseph, Jessica Stalmack, Kelly Fray, Peach Roman-Lagunas, Lauren Torres, Kara Clark, Jenny Jamicich, Amanda Shike, Jordan Sunderland *(last row)* Mr. Dirk Sloan, Brittany Bohling, Ashley DeVries, Darcie Kozlowski, Alissa Rosario, Becka Stork, Kim Markovich, Stephanie Brasaic, Julie Bassetto, Melissa Obszanski, Melissa Thompson, Nicole Castor, Monica Manoski, Mr. Mike Wells, Mr. Rob McCall

### over the edge

Reaching new heights, Stephanie Brasiac, sophomore, clears the bar and earns points for the team. "I concentrated on clearing the bar and improving my height," Brasiac said. "My event took a lot of practice."

### stretch it out

With her leg on the fence, Jessica Stalmack, sophomore, stretches along with Brittany Bohling, sophomore. "Stretching was so crucial because I didn't want to pull any muscles during the race," Stalmack said.

**Varsity Cheerleading** *(front row)* Aubrey Burdeau, Kristina Mueller, Christina Largus, Sara Dobrinich *(second row)* Nedra Stuart, Angie Ritchie, Kara Clark *(back row)* Jessica Kovach, Lauren Torres, Amy Hayes, Leslie Parker

**JV Cheerleading** *(front row)* Ashley Brown, Jessie Stalmack, Brittany Bohling *(second row)* Andrea Coulis, Kristen Szafasz, Aubrey Velasquez, Kim Hasse *(back row)* Kelly Fray, Angela Sowinski, A.J. Skinner

**Freshman Cheerleading** *(front row)* Tamiko Toyama, Brittany Lewis, Lauren Drosos *(second row)* Aly DeLoera, Jordan Sunderland *(back row)* Aimee Maruszczak, Brooke Kozlowski, Kara Hayes

## song and dance

On the track during a winter football game, Kara Clark, junior, belts out the school's fight song. "Cheering outside was an adventure," Clark said. "The atmosphere was a lot more intense, and the crowds were a lot more involved with the cheers."

## jump start

As Boys' Basketball's starting five charges the court, Lauren Torres, junior, stretches her arms in a "high V." "The starting-five routine was different for each game to keep the fans from getting bored," Torres said. "It was the first routine to really get them involved in the game."

## line dance

To fire up the crowd at the start of a Boys' Basketball game, the cheerleaders lift their arms to the audience. Scores of fans packed the stands to watch the Mustangs defeat Andrean.

## above and beyond

As Angie Ritchie, senior, sticks a Liberty, Lauren Torres, junior, and Jessica Kovach, senior, flash their signs. "I loved being on top because I loved the risk involved," Ritchie said.

**crowd pleasers**
In front of the football fanatics, Leslie Parker, senior, and Lauren Torres, junior, energize the crowd. "I liked a lot of the football games because of the fans," Leslie said. "The senior girls often started the chants. We must have sang the banana cheer about a hundred times."

# support group

*In their first year without travelling to Nationals, cheerleaders parade their spirit on the sidelines and at Gary Steelheads' game*

**high hopes**
With sophomore Kristen Szafacz spotting, Ashley Brown, sophomore, climbs onto freshman Andrea Coulis' shoulders. "Because Kristina Mueller had back problems, we had to do a less advanced mount," Andrea said. "It didn't show all we were capable of; but Kristina recovered, and everything worked out for competition."

When the buzzer sounded to end the third quarter, the squad bounced onto the floor. As one of two competitions during the season, the Gary Steelheads' game offered the girls a chance to perform their two-minute routine in front of hundreds of basketball fans.

"At typical cheerleading competitions, fans expected the mounts to be perfect and impressive," Kara Clark, junior, said. "This time, these fans had never seen such stunts before and reacted with more enthusiasm."

Participating in a competition that hosted one squad per game, the girls discovered six weeks later that they won the contest. As a reward, the girls attended another Steelheads' game to accept a check for $500.

"The check was like the ones they gave out for the lottery," Leslie Parker, senior, said. "They made a huge deal out of it, and it was nice to come back to another game. It was really an exciting moment."

**BELIEVE IT**

Cheerleaders rack up $500 for their contest victory hosted by the Gary Steelheads

**Cheering up**

With rain pouring heavily on the squad, the weather seemed appropriate for the occasion. As a time to say farewell to the ending season, Senior Night soon developed into an evening as gloomy as the stormy clouds overhead.

Despite the dwindling number of fans, the girls found a way to still enjoy their last football game. Trained to energize the most spiritless situations, the squad recalled some middle school chants to give life back to the moment.

"When the fans left [because of the rain], we needed to keep ourselves entertained," Angie Ritchie, senior, said. "We were soaking wet, and it kept our minds off the discomfort of the rain."

With chants like "Big Red Machine," the girls celebrated their middle school days of cheering just for fun.

"Some of us cheered together for over four years," Amy Hayes, senior, said. "That night, the coaches didn't stick to their ground rules and let loose. We got excited and silly like we did in middle school."

That silliness gave the cheerleaders a way to survive a torturous night of inclement weather. Despite the sheets of rain, the squad ended their season in a cheer.

### strike a pose

In a pyramid the Dance Team moves to the music. "The thing we enjoyed most was competing, but we also liked cheering to support the school," Kathryn Wickland, senior, said.

### on bended knee

During a half-time performance, Jillian Balazs, junior, takes advantage of the chance to rehearse her competition routine. "That was the funky part in the routine," Balazs said. "The music was a song we all knew, and it was easy to bust a move. It was a breather right in the middle of the routine. It was intense but slow."

### dance fever

Huddled in an intricate movement, the Dance Team performs their jazz routine during the pep rally. "We were much more prepared for the jazz routine, so I was more comfortable and had more confidence doing it," Lea Kilibarda, sophomore, said.

**Varsity Dance Team** *(front row)* Leah Shaffer, Lauren Hamblin, Melissa Leslie *(second row)* Maria Stopper, Christina Guanzon, Megan Hershberger, Jillian Balazs *(back row)* Jennifer Zgorka, Kristin Tanzillo, Kathryn Wickland

**JV Dance Team** *(front row)* Alexa Harris, Morgan Gebernn, Illissa Gershman *(second row)* Sarah Liszka, Lauren Davis, Amanda Kilibarda, Kristina Standley *(back row)* Kim Dooley, Manini Gupta, Melissa Crary

### leg up

With legs outstreched, the Dance Team performs their competition routines at half-time during Homecoming. The girls used basketball and football games as extra time to rehearse and perfect their dances.

### in character

With pom-poms in the air, co-captain Megan Hersberger, junior, dances to the music. "Everyone thought that we were what we performed [at games], but we were so much better than that." Hershberger said.

face value
**During a basketball game,** Kathryn Wickland, senior, cheers on the crowd. **In the midst** of her routine, Christina Guanzon reacts to the music. "Your purpose out their was to show them what you had, not only in your technique and movement, but also your expression, Christina Guanzon, junior, said. "You couldn't just go out with an emotionless face."

# face the music

*With only nine girls, Dance Team pulls together their strengths to capture three first place trophies at State*

Dipping her brush into the paint, Maria Stopper, junior, painted flames while her dance camp roommate Kristin Tanzillo, junior, worked on clouds. Equipped with decorations, the girls transformed their dorm room into heaven and hell. To lighten the atmosphere, the girls held a dormroom decorating contest.

"I was the devil and Kristin was the angel," Stopper said. "Usually, it was the other way around, but we thought it would be funnier this way. When the other girls saw it, they screamed, 'Wait, what? This isn't right!'"

Even a shocking switch of their personalities couldn't guarantee them first place as freshmen Melissa Crary and Kim Dooley seized the trophy.

### At first glance

With only a 10-minute warm-up before her solo, co-captain Megan Hershberger, junior, dragged teammate Jillian Balazs, junior, to help her choreograph the end of her 1:37 routine.

"I could only remember half of it, and the rest, I made up on the spot," Hershberger said. "Once I started, I looked like I had confidence, but I had no idea what I was doing. It was just kind of a front."

**BELIEVE IT**

Beating the competition, two small ensembles tie for first place at State

That false front fooled judges as she successively seized first place at the next three competitions. However, her streak ended at State. Shaking off her defeat, she performed her solo to 5,000 people during a state exhibition of all top finishers.

"Girls at the competitions treated her like a celebrity," Lauren Hamblin, senior, said. "The best part was that she never got a big head about her success."

### Taken by surprise

Watching the clock, co-captain Leah Shaffer, junior, fixed her turns during practice. At 5 p.m. Shaffer realized that for the fifth time their choreographer had neglected to help revamp the dance.

The girls extended their 3:45 p.m. practice until 8 p.m. To get all the girls to agree on dance moves paralleled "a night in hell," according to Hamblin.

However, all the girls' hard work paid off as the Dance Team snatched first place at the competition.

"When they announced Crown Point at second place, we turned around to our team standing behind us, and we started going crazy," Shaffer said. It bonded our team. Even though that night was grueling, we pulled it together in the end."

# *at all* costs

The Region offers students with a wide array of social alternatives to fill in their athletic free time

**$7** a large size bucket of golf balls at Wicker Park to tee off at the driving range

**$5.50** 18 holes of mini-golf at Schererville Fun and Golf Center to play a round of putt-putt

**$80** paint-ball field time, necessary rental equipment and 1,000 rounds of paint at Blast Camp to romp around an old military field with friends

**$38** three climbs and the rental fee for a harness at Omega Sports Complex to scale the 40 ft. wall

**$5** four and a half minutes of go-carting fun as friends try to steer clear of one other

### extreme heights

Soaring through the air, Justin Smith, sophomore, enjoys his free time riding motocross. "When you were riding with others, your emotions were much stronger," Justin said. "You were more nervous, more excited and more anxious."

### horsing around

Taking her horse, Bailey, around the indoor riding ring, Caitlin Hawryszkow, senior, holds on tight as Bailey breaks into a canter. "I rode in a bunch of little competitions and won some small awards, but the show scene wasn't anything I was really interested in," Caitlin said.

### hit or miss

In the driveway of senior Darshak Joshi's house, Aditya Shah, sophomore, smacks a cricket ball down the street. "In India I played four hours a day," Aditya said. "But here I could only play mostly during the summer and only with people who were interested in it," Aditya said.

### feeling the burn

By leading a dance aerobics class at Women's Workout World, Alyssa Hathaway, senior, stays in good shape. As an aerobics teacher, Alyssa spent a lot of her free time in the gym.

### in full swing

Practicing in his own backyard, Jeff Schmidt, junior, takes a swing at a wiffle ball. "I liked golf because there was always room for improvement, and there was always a more challenging course out there," Jeff said.

Students search for innovative ways to spend their athletic free time

# hang time

Nearly forty feet in the air, Manini Gupta, sophomore, reached for the next "hold" as she muscled her way up a rock climbing wall at Omega Sports Complex. During the summer Manini went rock climbing twice a week.

"When I had my birthday party there, I found out how much I loved to climb," Manini said. "It was a good way to tone your body while still having fun. But you really had to concentrate because if you didn't, you fell."

Students like Manini took organizational sports to another level as they searched for alternative ways to exercise and to have fun. In the case of John Rogers, freshman, vacations from home meant one favorite family activity: scuba diving.

Exploring exotic waters in Mexico and Florida, John took the opportunity to participate in an activity that allowed him to view animals in their natural habitat.

"When most people looked at the ocean, they usually only saw the top of it," John said. "But when I went scuba diving, I was able to see a whole different world; and it gave me a chance to see an environment that people didn't typically experience."

Athletic pastimes such as scuba diving allowed students to deviate from the usual sports. While John spent his vacation under the sea, Kristina Kovacevich, freshman, spent her winter break in the Catskill Mountains in New York.

Angie Ritchie, senior

For three years Kristina honed her skills as an alpine skier and enjoyed the calm and serence scenery typical to the snow-capped mountains.

Kristina's love for skiing grew from her desire to enjoy the outdoors. Sophomore Scott Vandersteen, however, participated in indoor sports to pass his time outside of school.

Alongside some fellow church members, Scott represented Northwest Indiana on a traveling volleyball team.

"Not that many people my age played in my league," Scott said. "I wanted to play seriously; so I played with older, more serious people. I wanted to get better and improve my skills."

Manini's skills at rock climbing improved with each trip up the wall. To celebrate her younger brother's 10th birthday, she strapped him into a harness to throw a party that would hopefully lead to a similar love for rock climbing.

**air time**
At Riverside Park seniors Kyle Rice and Ryan Novotny enjoy a round of frisbee golf after school.

## Academic Team

Sponsor: Mr. Don Ullman

What's in it for them? After months of laboring over information, tools and gadgets, the Academic Team's hard work paid off as they gain recognition from their state titles.

**Academic Team** *(front row)* Philip Chan, Chris Ondo, Zhi Zheng, Billy Lewis, Rachel Kevin, Denny Lee *(second row)* Brian Harrigan, Ajay Patwari, Paul Cowgill, Mike Friedman, Andrew Lee, David Chen *(back row)* Steve Balog, Doug Coyle, Roddy Oancea, Robbie Collins, Jimmy Hennes, Jia Hou

**Academic Team** *(front row)* Kirstin Bularzik, Sheiphali Gandhi, Elyse Holloway, Roli Mundhara *(second row)* Connie Kuo, Sophia Blakeley, Dijita Sundi, Heather Phipps, Esther Economou, Tina Shieh *(third row)* Booram Ur, Euna Choi, Rohini Chatterjee, Brett Anderson, Sara Harvey *(back row)* Ian Holloway, Sara Pappas, Nicholas Thaera, Jovica Balac, Brandon Chynoweth, Michael Graczyk

## American Sign Language Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Lynn Shumacher

Officers: Kelly Montella, president; Megan Coyne, vice president; Courtney Mambourg, co-secretary; Jill Young, co-secretary; Jacqui Hayes, treasurer

What's in it for them? By attending plays done in sign language, members gained cultural awareness of the deaf.

**American Sign Language** *(front row)* Amanda Pogach, Megan Coyne, Courtney Mambourg, Nancy Bielfeldt, Marc Strick, Jill Young, Jayme Jedrzejczak, *(second row)* Jaqui Banas, Melissa Thomas, Dominique Mercier, Lisa Krismanick, Rachel Gill, Ashley Gajda *(third row)* Shannon Zenos, Amanda Porta, Jacqui Hayes, Elizabeth Volkoff, Lindsay Puterko, Ray Sicinski, Maribeth Sarnecki *(last row)* Jill Hanrahan, Natalia Paez, Lisa Demkowicz, Craig Talbot, Kelly Montella, Ryann Perlinski

## Amnesty International

Sponsor: Mrs. Juliann Acevez

Officers: Connie Kuo, president; Alex Cheng, vice president

What's in it for them? Swamped with letters and phone numbers, Amnesty International raised their voices to aid victims of wrong-doings.

**Amnesty International** *(front row)* Richelle Medellin, Kara Kozlowski, Lenny Weiss, Lydia Carle, Leslie Parker, Lauren Mikler *(second row)* Julie Nelson, David Mallinger, Sara Pappas, Manini Gupta, Denny Lee *(third row)* Steve Coulis, Brandon Thompson, Ryan Miller, Robbie Collins, Gabe Culberg, Alex Cheng

**Amnesty International** *(front row)* Amanda Pogach, Connie Kuo, Kathy Ntiamoah, Raechelle Medellin, Neema Shah *(second row)* Kavita Nana, Cara Witecks, Irena Hnatusko, Todd Loden, Rachel Gosciej, Neerja Prasad *(back row)* Paige Popravak, Elizabeth Wible, Madeline Grdina, Dustin Moriarty, Becka Stork, Hannah Huebner

### LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL

Parading through the streets during Homecoming, German Club members Emily Alberti, Rich Shudick, Michelle McIntyre, Michelle Miskimins, and Sara Harvey, juniors, ride in back of the truck they decorated.

### WAITING GAMES

As publication staff members Rachel Medina and Natalie Stigall, juniors, wait for their bus to their hotel in Dallas during the JEA National Journalism Convention, they develop inside jokes, according to Rachel.

### SWEET TOOTH

Consuming sweet bread, Stephanie Dybel, junior, celebrates the Spanish Club's fiesta for Cinco de Mayo with her fellow members. "I went with my friends to the party and got to enjoy great food after school and made new plans," Stephanie said.

### KEEP IT HOT

Preparing his hot tamale during a cooking session with Spanish Club, Ryan Miller, senior, spreads the ingredients onto the shell. "Making tamales gave me the opportunity to try different cultures' cuisines while socializing with friends," Ryan said.

# MADE TO ORDER

*Whether joining a club to make friends and meet new people or following the crowd in order to spend time with old friends, club members socialize and have a good time while eating food and providing entertainment*

When Celeste Tiberi, freshman, went to freshman Kristina Kovacevich's house to bake cookies for the Spanish Club's holiday party, she felt apprehensive about working with someone she hardly knew. As they occupied the kitchen, they learned that they had common interests besides Spanish and developed a new friendship, according to Celeste.

"By meeting new people as a freshman, I was able to make more friends," Celeste said. "Kristina was in my Spanish class, but I didn't really know her. After we decided to bake cookies together, we became friends. I was more comfortable being [at Spanish Club] because I knew more people and could have more fun."

Sharing the same interest in music, Jazz Band members came together after hours to log in more practice time, according to TJ Surma, junior. Many times after a performance the band members would get together and go out to eat or go over to a member's house.

"You got to establish friendships in band that meant more than just the normal high school clique because you made music and practiced together," TJ said. "Therefore, you ended up spending a lot of time together."

During weekly Ping-Pong Club tournaments, Arnab Dasgupta, senior, enjoyed the challenge of competition. He felt more motivated to try his hardest when facing a club member he knew, according to Arnab.

"You were playing with people you knew and some that you didn't really like, so that made the competition even more competitive and fun," Arnab said. "Sometimes you faced someone who you knew you could beat, but they were ranked higher than you, or you knew they may have been better, and that made you want to beat them even more."

While Spanish Club threw their Christmas party, German Club busily planned their field trip to the German Christmas Market in Chicago. Members shopped for German arts and crafts and observed glass blowing, according to Secretary Michelle Miskimins, junior. As an officer of German Club, Michelle had more time to spend with friends and participated in many unique field trips.

"[My friends and I] did interesting things in a club you wouldn't normally get the opportunity to do," Michelle said. "I met many people in different grades that had the same interest in German as I did."

As Celeste sat down with Kristina, they felt delighted in how their cookies turned out and had a great time at the party. The Spanish Club enjoyed the cookies too, according to Celeste. The two had both found a new friend through social activity in Spanish Club.

**BAND OF FRIENDS**
Watching the game, Pep Band members Joe Kasenga, freshman, sophomores Steve Hus and Doug Boyer dress in Hawaian attire to show their spirit and unifiy the band. "You got to cheer for your school's team by playing music, while you enjoyed the excitement of the game," Steve said.

DIG IN
Carefully scooping out the insides of a pumpkin, Ashley Gajda, senior, cleans it out before carving it. Without the restrictions of a classroom curriculum or grading system, members freely used their own creativity with their art.

# ATTENTION TO DETAILS

*By creating artistic masterpieces or performing speeches, plays and music to a live audience, students express their creative side in clubs*

Lush tropical rainforests and towering mountains appeared in the car window as Allison Crary, senior, basked in the beauty of Hawaii's scenery while driving through East Oahu over Spring Break.

Viewing an actual pacific island sparked the creativity Allison needed to design the sets for the spring musical *South Pacific*.

"It was like the idea for the sets came to life," Allison said. "Even though it was something that wasn't planned, seeing the untouched life and how houses were built inspired me. We even saw Pearl Harbor, which happened in World War II like *South Pacific*."

Since Allison had spent her entire life drawing and painting, creating the sets for five productions introduced her to a new art form.

"A set was like working on a canvas without edges; I could go as far as I wanted," Allison said. "This was a new way to be creative."

Students who performed onstage in front of the scenery showcased their creativity through acting and character development. Sara Dobrinich, junior, participated in theater as well as the Speech team to keep her acting and speaking abilities fresh and creative.

"Being creative made up who I was," Sara said. "I took each part and made it my own. I didn't want to do anything anyone else had done. I liked to be original. What better way to express myself?"

Using cleverness and spontaneity allowed Sara to deliver creative performances. When peers, speech coaches or directors saw her perform, they contributed their ideas so that her characters could grow, according to Sara.

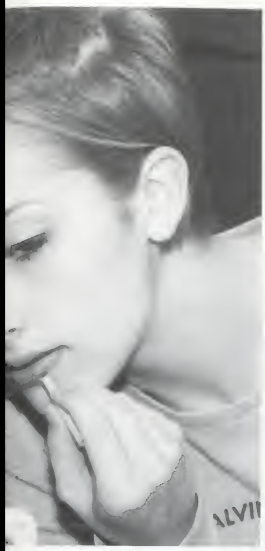
"I didn't have to hold anything back," Sara said. "All of acting was letting yourself go; that in itself was expressing creativity."

Students with a flair for art gathered to work on different projects in Art Club by making everything from hemp jewelry and cookies to potato wrapping paper and wire hearts.

"Art Club allowed us to express ourselves in different ways," Jennifer McCreight, freshman, said. "Meetings allowed members to creatively work with people to provide interesting artwork for the community. We always had innovative projects that challenged our mind and forced us to demonstrate artistic ability."

By playing French horn and bass for Jazz Band, Marching Band and Orchestra, Andrew Sharp, sophomore, created music, an important part of his life. Andrew recognized that musical style varied from player to player. Using his own style, he showed creativity.

"Performing was a big part of music because you put your own taste, style and spin on it," Andrew said. "No two people played exactly the same. It was important to put your own ideas into the music."



### MAKEOVER MADNESS

Applying lip gloss, juniors Allison Hanas and Kelly McWilliams test out samples of Mary Kay makeup in the cafeteria with Couture Club. "I always tried new makeup techniques and explored new fashions," Kelly said. "I tried to have a unique style."

### SWEET TOOTH

With Christmas cookies spread onto the table, Danielle Wilks, sophomore, prepares to decorate them with Art Club. "It was really nice because Art Club didn't have the restraints of class," Danielle said. "The officers provided material and an idea. You had the freedom to do it the way you wanted. You weren't worried about a grade or being judged by a teacher."

### DYNAMIC DUO

Squished into a speech practice room, Justin Dal Corobbo and Andrew Bridgman, juniors, practice their duo *Greater Tuna* in front of Erica Ranade, junior, and Michelle Becka, sophomore. "[Speech] was a competition, and you were up against people that were doing the same thing as you; so you had to be creative and unique in order to stand out," Andrew said.

### MASQUERADE

Clad in flamboyant accessories, Lydia Carle and Mike Stoffregen, seniors, bring designed cakes to French Club's Mardis Gras party. "It was never something people put a lot of time into, but we wanted them to be good." Mike said. "It turned into a piece of art rather than a piece of food. The object of Mardis Gras was to be as outlandishly eccentric as you could."

**Aquarium Club** *(front row)* Amanda Pogach, Todd Loden, Jim Knesek, Amber Jernigan, Ashley Gajda *(second row)* Darshak Joshi, Allison Hanas, Paige Popravak, Tamiko Toyama, Kathy Ntiamoah, Alissa Rosario *(third row)* Dan Alspach, Emily Clark, Becka Stork, Alex Feldman, Leah Alberson, Andrea Coulis *(back row)* Rich Shudick, Gabe Culberg, Adam Kaufman, Zach Holobowski, Scott Gray, Lenny Weiss

## Aquarium Club

Officers: Jim Knesek, president; Alyssa Rosario, vice president

Sponsor: Miss Jennifer Luksich

**Art Club** *(front row)* Mrs. Linda Haynes, Anna Borgo, Jaime Zlamal, Erin Schmiedel, Danielle Wilks, Elyse Holloway *(second row)* Roli Mandhana, Ashley Gajda, Erin McGuan, Egle Vaitiekute, Shobha Pai, Kristine Duray, Sarah Grabarczyk, Dominique Mercier, Rachel Meinrich, Saba Ahmed, Sarah Liszka *(back row)* Katrina Kupski, Kristina Kesely, Jennifer McCreight, Jimmy Hennes, Lisa Demkowicz, Ugnius Vaitiekus

## Art Club

Officers: Anna Borgo, president; Alyssa Hathaway, vice president

Sponsor: Mrs. Linda Haynes

What's in it for them? Started as a long-term project to paint school garbage cans, the club's theme would represent unity among people

**Auditorium Staff** *(front row)* Kaylen Huggy, Booram Ur, Julie Kiekenapp, Mike Graczyk, Paige Popravak *(second row)* Mike Hughes, Kristen Kendall, Matthew Spyrka, Chris Sipes, Ryan Blanchard, John Mihich *(third row)* Rachel Kevin, Martin Blumberg, Kristina Kesely, David Murks, Ryan Drees *(back row)* Craig Talbot, Chris Maloney, Niki Cacich, Dan Phillips, Ben DeBoer, Emily Bradley

## Auditorium Staff

Technical Director: Dan Phillips

Production Manager: Kristina Kesely

What's in it for them? Controlling the sound booth, lights, house and backstage area, the 50-member staff worked around 360 hours during the year for school drama productions and other functions.

**Auditorium Staff** *(front row)* Amanda Pogach, Kirstin Bularzik, Rachel Gociej *(second row)* Cara Witecki, Eric Zyglowicz, Marie Weish, Patrick Los, Michelle Miskimins, Marnan Campos *(third row)* Elise Miller, Michelle Potter, Krystle Murzyn, Rachel Mihich, Manini Gupta *(back row)* Stacey Welsh, Sara Harvey, Elizabeth Van Wieren, Brandi Bishop, Ben Mann, Nicole Rogers

**Band, Jazz** *(front row)* Stephanie Banach, Matt Lemus, Jonathan Rich, Stephanie Frank, Mark Boeckman, Kristen Moran *(second row)* Frank Pukoszek, Matt Whitlatch, Matt Spyrka, David Linnear, T.J. Surma *(back row)* Eric Wallace, Marko Djuric, Jason Carr, Ben DeBoer, Jeff Schmidt, Spelios Bacoyanis

## Band, Jazz

Sponsor: Mr. Will Woods

What's in it for them? Members performed several regular concerts and one at the Valparaiso Jazz Festival.

**Band, Jazz** *(front row)* Marko Medynsky, Chirag Barai, Ryan Szanyi, Robert Schoon, Darcie Kozlowski, Philip Chan *(second row)* Chris Mihalo, Steve Hus, Brian Carraher, Joe Kasenga, Matthew Tepperman, Doug Boyer *(back row)* Andrew Sharp, Joe Zagorski, Robbie Collins, Keith Lorenz, Mark Sikora, John Wadas

## CEC, Freshman

Officers: Brittany Lewis, President; Nick Stolarz, Vice President

Sponsor: Mrs. Kristi Mendoza and Miss Lisa Homer

**CEC, Freshman** Jen Conley, Brittany Lewis, Nick Stolarz, Saba Ahmed

## CEC, Sophomore

Officers: Sarah Liszka, President; Scott Vandersteen, Vice President

Sponsor: Mrs. Jackie Podkul

**CEC, Sophomore** *(front row)* Sarah Liszka, Kristen Kendall, Ashley DeVries *(back row)* Phillip Shapiro, Scott Vandersteen

## CEC, Junior

Officers: Kate Laudermilk, President; Billy Lewis, Vice President

Sponsor: Mr. Mike Gordon

What's in it for them? The staff worked on organizing the junior-senior prom for the enjoyment of the upperclassmen.

**Junior CEC** *(front row)* Mike Friedman, Nikki Bland, Julia Konopasek, Billy Lewis*(second row)* Kate Laudermilk, Emily Stine, Lauren Torres, Laura Lautz, Lindsey Steele *(back row)* Anton Shishkin, Josh Martin, Ryann Perlinski, Todd Dell'Aquila

## CEC, Senior

Officers: Robbie Collins, President; Peach Roman-Lagunas, Vice President

Sponsor: Miss Val Pflum

What's in it for them? The group organized the Senior Banquet as the last major event of the year.

**Senior CEC** *(front row)* Amy Hayes, Janushi Dalal, Peach Roman-Lagunas, Lisa Rietmann, Jillian Hmurovic *(back row)* Lauren Hamblin, Josh Levin, Robbie Collins, Matt Banach, Kara Kozlowski

### SWEET NOURISHMENT

Pouring herself a cup of Mexican hot chocolate, Nicole Parra, sophomore, takes part in the Day of the Dead Spanish Club party. "I just started Spanish I last year and was interested to learn more about the language, so I joined the club," Nicole said.

### DOUBLE TAKE

Singing a duet, freshman Mike Hughes and junior Carolyn Jania, perform in the play *Something Funny Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Carolyn hoped to improve her acting by taking part in as many plays as she could during high school.

### FACING THE MUSIC

During band class seniors Ben Stork, Stacy Frank, freshman Kaitlin Bandura and sophomore Jessica Orzel practice their piece. "Band became a good enviroment in which to develop my interest in music," Stacy said.

### TUNING IN

Singing during Concert Choir, juniors Sara Dobrinich and Megan Kosiba prepare for the Christmas Concert. "Singing with a variety of people in choir made it a more enjoyable experience," Sara said.

Glancing up, he watched as the basketball team rapidly advanced up the court. His fingers firmly tugged the film across the backing into the intake clip.

Film now in place, Jeff Furticella, senior, shut the camera backing, adjusted the film speed and aperture opening, and gave the shutter release button one final squeeze, all while intently watching the play develop. In a series of rhythmic clicks, the action ended, the team retreated and Jeff patiently waited for the next opportunity to immortalize a pass in the lane of a baseline jump shot.

With hopes of pursuing a career in photography, Jeff joined the publications staff to further develop his interest.

"I decided to take photography as a means of maintaining and refining my skills so that when I arrived at college, I wouldn't have to deal with the rust that goes along with not shooting on a consistent basis," Jeff said.

Interests led Natalia Paez, junior, to put her efforts into starting a new club. Following her passion for fashion, she started the Couture Club, a fashion club for those who showed an interest in the "ever-changing fashion scene."

After hours of work and numerous attempts at finding a sponsor for the club, Natalia's efforts finally paid off. Despite criticism from many students who "just didn't understand her passion," all the pieces seemed to fit together to her liking.

"The fact that so many people ridiculed me for being so intent on starting this club made it harder," Natalia said. "Those who were into fashion deserved to have the opportunity to be in a club that they were passionate about."

Other students merely joined an existing club that they knew they could benefit from later on in life. Foreign language clubs provided students with valuable information and worthwhile experiences, according to Chetan Chaubal, sophomore.

"I joined the Spanish Club since I knew that I could benefit from the things that I would learn [there]," Chetan said.

With many professions encouraging employees to speak a foreign language, Chetan felt like he got a head start by immersing himself in a language during high school.

"Since I wanted to be a doctor, I knew that I would need to know another language if I ever wanted to get a job," Chetan said. "Starting to learn a language during high school was beneficial because it put me ahead of those students who just started taking it for the first time in college. It taught me about culture and let me get ahead before I even got to college."

IN GOOD SPIRIT
Taking part in the Oct. 11 Homecoming Day parade, Spanish Club members cruise down the street on their truck. The members spent several hours creating signs to decorate their spirit mobile.

# ACQUIRING A TASTE

*Through involvement in extracurriculars ranging from foreign language clubs to the fashion club, students further develop their interests*

STRINGS OF SONG
**Struming her violin, Julie** Nelson, sophomore, participates in Orchestra. **During the Munster debate** meet, Sheiphali Gandhi, junior, prepares her arguments for the next round. "It taught you to think on your feet under pressure in a stressful situation," Shephali said.

# LEARNING THE ROPES

*Dedicating long hours to improve skills, club members learn more detail in their areas of interests through hands-on activities*

Frustrated and tired, Jenny Nelson, senior, helped new Color Guard members learn the club's dance routine. With only half of the members returning from the previous year, they strived to coordinate their moves with each other.

The Color Guard gave students a chance to participate in a physical club. Waving flags to the beat of the band's music, members learned different skills than the typical ones students learned in other clubs, according to Jenny.

"Color Guard was fun for me because it was exercise and coordination at the same time," Jenny said. "Because I was one of the more experienced members of the club, I taught the dance to new members who joined. This gave me patience because besides explaining the routine, I attempted to train them on how to use the flag in the proper way."

Clubs provided students with not only physical, but also academic skills. For example, students joined DECA to improve business skills. Solving problems in realistic situations, students gained knowledge on dealing with consumers, according to Gina Selent, senior.

"Wanting to go into the business field, I felt as though it would be beneficial for me to join the club," Gina said. "DECA put me in situations which brought about conflicts which I had to solve myself. It showed me my strengths and weaknesses, and the experience provided me with a basis for my future."

By performing in front of live audiences, students learned public speaking skills on the Speech and Debate team. Members gained confidence in speaking and raised their self esteem the more times they practiced, according to Jim Bochnowski, junior.

"I didn't focus on the fact that there were so many people watching and listening to me when I spoke," Jim said. "I put them out of my head and finished the task."

Some students learned new study skills to use in their everyday work. The material Academic Team members learned complemented the information taught in school, according to Euna Choi, junior. The club provided students with methods of independent study for those individuals who excelled academically in the area of study.

Jenny worked long hours and dedicated her free time to teach other members the routines that the group needed to know. Being in the club made it worth it, according to Jenny. She understood that "when you put more into things, you got more out of them in the end."

MISSION "IM"POSSIBLE
For his Mission Possible project, Ian Holloway, attempts to work out the kinks. "Although our mission failed, we learned a lot from the experience," Ian said. "It developed skills in problem solving and engineering for college preparation."

THE GINGERBREAD MAN
Frosting together a gingerbread house, Mike Stoffregen, senior, works on a project in German Club. "The club made me more aware of different customs and cultures outside of my own," Mike said. "It really broadened my horizons."

STEP BY STEP
Marching with the band, Jake Kunz, freshman, beats the drums with precision. "Band taught me the muscial skills I didn't learn anywhere else," Jake said. "I worked with other members and counted my steps while I marched in competitions."

**Couture Club** *(front row)* Kelly McWilliams, Sapna Shah, Puja Kathrotiya, Paige Popravak, Dominique Mercier *(back row)* Sheena Srivastava, Rachel Medina, Stephanie Dybel, Natalia Paez, Carolyn Jania, Allison Hanas

## Couture Club

Officers: Natalia Paez, President
Sponsor: Mrs. Alyce Mart-Webb

What's in it for them?
Creating a fashion show, members of Couture Club flaunted their style.

**Crier** *(front row)* Natalie Stigall, Ressie Davis, Euna Choi, Danielle Jordan *(back row)* Mrs. Nancy Hastings, Maddie Morley, David Watson, Joey Manderino, Leslie Parker

## Crier

Officers: Joey Manderino, Editor-in-chief
Sponsor: Mrs. Nancy Hastings
What's in it for them?
In order to put out a quality publication, 8 members worked long hours after school.

**DECA** *(front row)* Ashley Carlson, Gina Selent, Todd Loden, Jeff Trgovich, Kate Hanas, Joe Gogolak *(second row)* Sarah Laymon, Nick Stone, Stacy Frank, Angie Lewellyn, Joe Skertich, Ben Rinderer *(third row)* Amanda Porta, Bobby Hoffman, Caitlin Muir, Melissa Boeckman, Brian Mayer, Maxwell Ntiamoah, Melissa Thomas *(fourth row)* Billy Evans, Dan Cohen, Tom Dwars, Adam Kaufman, Chris Maloney, Amber Jernigan *(back row)* Derek Newell, Krissy Herbeck, Ashley Chemerinsky, Lauren Biel, Sondra Leslie, Sarah Burnstein, Jon Kutas

## DECA

Officers: Jon Kutas, President
Sponsor: Mr. Kent Lewis

What's in it for them?
Selling balloons during Homecoming and roses for Sweetest Day, DECA members worked in business situations to get experience for future jobs and college endeavors.

**Ensemble, Mixed** *(front row)* Gabi DeLuna, Marko Medynsky, Katie Szewka, Jim Bochnowski, Mike Friedman, Sara Dobrinich *(second row)* David Johnson, Vita Lazauskas, Lindsey Ellingsen, Caitlin Hawryszkow, Ashley Troumouliaris, Lenny Weiss *(back row)* Rachel Caselton, Matt Domasica, Doug Coyle, Spelios Bacoyanis, Mike McCullough, Jordan Barnes

## Ensemble, Mixed

Sponsor: Dr. Timothy Bartlett

What's in it for them?
Performing in annual choral concerts, the 20 members worked to improve their voices.

**Ensemble, Women's** *(front row)* Amber Jernigan, Lauren Treasure, Paige Popravak, Lyndsay Langbehn, Emily Yttri *(second row)* Katie Schlesinger, Allison Hasselof, Jillian Hmurovic, Thea Logan *(back row)* Natalie Clippert, Carolyn Jania, Emily Diekelmann, Kristina Kesely, Julie Nelson

## Ensemble, Women's

Sponsor: Dr. Timothy Bartlett

What's in it for them?
Participating in the ISSMA Solo Ensembles, the 30 members competed to challenge their talents through music.

**Women's Ensemble** *(front row)* Amber Jernigan, Lauren Treasure, Paige Popravak, Lyndsay Langbehn, Emily Yttri *(second row)* Katie Schlesinger, Allison Hasselof, Jillian Hmurovic, Thea Logan *(back row)* Natalie Clippert, Carolyn Jania, Emily Diekelmann, Kristina Kesely, Julie Nelson

## French Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Alyce Mart-Webb

Officers: Steve Coulis and Mike Stoffregen, co-presidents; Coleen Adley and Dustin Moriarty; co-vice-presidents; Jason Dillon and Kathy Ntiamoah, co-secretaries; Aja Aktay and Mike Shinkan; co-treasurers

What's in it for me? Decorating their own cakes and sporting extravagant costumes, French Club members brought a piece of the French culture and customs to students through their Mardis Gras costume party and French Christmas party.

**French Club** *(front row)* Kathy Ntiamoah, Coleen Adley, Dustin Moriarty, Steve Coulis, Mike Stoffregen, Lauren Mikler *(second row)* Paige Popravak, Rebecca Triemstra, AJ Skinner, Kaitlin DeCero, Nicole Patterson *(third row)* Genevieve Grdina, Katie Szewka, Morgan Wagner, Natalie Belkairous, Theresa Kretz *(back row)* Ashley Boyan, Lydia Carle, Lauren Treasure, Puja Kathrotiya, Liz Anderson, Tony Spinosa

**French Club** *(front row)* Sheena Srivastava, Natalia Paez, Laura Lautz, Aja Aktay, Jenny Nelson *(second row)* Ashley Troumouliaris, Carolyn Jania, Marica Coduti, Ricky Paulson, Sara Gregson, Lauren Cherrier *(third row)* Zach Holobowski, Jon Pleitner, Derek Newell, Josh Levin, Zack Fabert *(back row)* Eric LaMagdeleine, Nate Holobowski, Ryan Szanyi, David Pavkovich, Dan Alfonsi, Jason Dillon

**French Club** *(front row)* Athena Bakris, Sarah-Anne Lanman, Heather Phipps, Sarah Grabarczyk *(second row)* Andrew Schutz, Christina Guanzon, Dominique Mercier, Lyndsay Langbehn, Stephanie Coulis, Kate Mikels *(third row)* David Strain, Amit Shah, Jenn Zivich, Kory Aktay, Brandon Chynoweth *(back row)* Kevin Wysock, Jeff Trgovich, Alex Prole, Luo Jia Zheng, Jaime Zlamal, Neel Shah

**French Club** *(front row)* Mrs. Alyce Mart-Webb, Kelly Markovich, Stana Romic, Dragana Petrovic, Beth Herrin, Maman Campos, Amanda Pogach *(second row)* Neema Shah, Irena Hnatusko, Alyson Pilawski, Milka Bastaic, Branka Bastaic, Kim Hawkins, Elissa Porte *(back row)* Ashley Hack, Pete Kubacki, Phil Kubacki, Mirjana Lakich, Nick Stone, Branka Romic, Rachel Gosciej

### SWEET SUCCESS

Concentrated on building her gingerbread house, Emily Alberti, junior, holds up the sides of her building without letting it fall. "Although it was a tedious project, it was worth it in the end because it was cute," Emily said. "German club offered me a therapeutic activity to relieve the stress of everyday school life."

### WIGGING OUT

Sporting a curly, black wig, Euna Choi, junior, finds time to have fun during a *Crier* week. "There was always some kind of obstacle in everything you commited to," Euna said. "But, when you managed to see things through despite these obstacles, you felt as though you had come out a winner. As part of the *Crier* staff, I was definitely under a lot of stress; but all the fun times I had as part of it more than made up for it. Besides, the harder it was to commit to something, the better the rewards."

### JUST FOR THE RECORD

In Westminister Church, the Women's Ensemble belts out tunes while recording their holiday CD. The process of putting together the CD had its bumps in the road. Anytime that someone coughed or giggled the taping would have to restart.

### HEAVY MEDAL

With a huge smile, Jaime Shapiro, senior, makes her way to her seat after winning a Superior Award for copy editing at the JEA National Journalism Convention. "It was satisfying to do well at something I worked so hard at," Jaime said.

# RAISING THE ROOF

*Whether slaving over letters to foreign governments or playing ring toss during an elementary school Halloween party, students find the satisfaction in clubs*

Two scarecrows, one angel, one NBA player, two princesses and a cat boarded the red van on their way to the Calumet City elementary school of Our Lady of Knock. In order to aid the children in their Halloween parties, Natalie Clippert, senior, and fellow Project X members traveled to the school equipped with over 200 bags of candy to pass out to the children.

The Halloween volunteers split up into classes and replaced "room moms" by playing games like an inflatable spider ring toss and a fuzzy ball dart game. After helping with the games, Natalie grooved with the kids and jumped right into the Macarena.

"I broke it down to the Macarena," Natalie said. "I wasn't ashamed, I'd admit it. I loved kids. I could always have a good time with them. I didn't think of it as a chore, a bother or a charity thing. It was an opportunity to have fun with the kids to make their day a little brighter. I had such good memories of Halloween, but they got lost. I just wanted them to have a memorable Halloween."

Just as Natalie gave up her time to gain the satisfaction of brightening someone else's day, Neerja Prasad, sophomore, buried herself in piles of letters to senators, governors, presidents and organizations to free victims as a part of Amnesty International.

"When we found out that a person was being imprisoned, tortured or executed illegally, we wrote letters and petitioned and got as many people aware as possible," Neerja said. "It was unrealistic to assume that every person we helped was freed, but that was no reason to stop. The best thing was to keep working."

While Neerja worked hard on freeing victims, Mike Friedman, junior, turned his attention to his debate workload and briefed evidence to create a brand new 70-page negative case on Lariam, an anti-malarial drug, during the few weeks before Districts.

"By the end of Districts, it was down to only a handful of excellent teams," Mike said. "We had, however, been debating for over ten hours and were extremely tired from judging delays and the strain of what we were doing. So when they announced two of the Munster teams as [National] qualifiers and one as an alternate [to go to Nationals], we were simultaneously surprised, thrilled and relieved."

However they spent their time, students found that clubs offered them a sense of satisfaction. As Natalie realized that she had to leave the students and stop dancing to the celebration songs, the children surrounded her and grabbed at her legs and asked her to stay. After many hugs Natalie walked away knowing that not only had these children had a memorable experience, but she had also.

TASTY TREATS
During Spanish Club's Day of the Dead party, Chetan Chaubal, sophomore, grabs a piece of Mexican sweet bread. "I joined because I liked speaking Spanish, and it was a way to get more exposure to the Spanish culture," Chetan said. "It was a fun way to hang out with friends and learn something too."

LEADING MAN
Microphone in hand, Student Body President Joey Manderino leads the student body in their Homecoming cheers. "I tried to get everyone in the spirit of Homecoming without being obnoxious about it," Joey said.

# LEADING THE WAY

*As upperclassmen assume club leadership positions, underclassment await their turns to fill responsibilities*

On the way to the sectional speech meet, President David Ellis, senior, led the team in a warm-up exercise. Reciting the "Betty Botter" tounge twister, Shobha Pai, freshman, prepared for the tournament.

Shobha benefited from the seniors' help since they competed alongside the underclassmen and could give good tips and advice at the last minute, according to Shobha.

"The help that we got from the seniors was different than the advice that we got from the coaches," Shobha said. "Since they were competing at the same meets that we were, they were in our shoes. If we had a question, even at the last minute, we were able to ask them and see what they had to tell us."

Club members had different experiences with leadership positions instead of regular membership. Student Body President Joey Manderino, senior, and Vice-President Connie Kuo, senior, learned this concept first hand.

"It was impossible to truly know how much added responsibility came with a leadership position until you'd actually been placed in that position," Joey said.

This behind-the-scenes work necessitated a much greater time commitment for both Joey and Connie Kuo than in their previous years.

"Things always just seemed to magically get done," Joey said. "Posters seemed to just magically appear on the walls; projects just seemed to magically organize themselves. [Student Government] just magically seemed to make more and more money. But when you were the one actually meeting with all the administrators, scheduling events, purchasing decorations and counting all the ballots, a lot of that magic wore off. You found out all the time and energy that went into every thing that Student Government did."

Around times of pre-planned events such as Homecoming, things tended to get more hectic; and club leaders dealt with all these problems. Sophomore Class Executive Council (CEC) president Sarah Liszka experienced this anxiety for the first time during Homecoming float building when the group couldn't unanimously decide on a float theme.

As with Student Government, leadership positions in CEC demanded more behind-the-scenes work than members thought.

"Freshman year when I just had a regular position, I didn't have to do much,"Sarah said. "It wasn't until I became president that I found out how much planning and organization went into every activity. You had a much greater responsibility as president, had to make many more phonecalls, and deal with many more prolems than you did as just a member."

### PARTY MODE

Filling a pinata, seniors Raechelle Medellin and Russel Patel get ready for a Spanish Club party. "Being president allowed me to be in charge of events and also forced me to develop new social skills since I had to talk to people," Raechelle said.

### THIN LINE

Making their way across the ropes course, seniors Coleen Adley and Mike Stoffregen practice their teamwork skills. "I used to be afraid of heights until I did this activity," Coleen said. "I learned to trust my friends to help me along the way."

### DOUBLE VISION

Getting together the supplies for their next project, seniors Mirjana Lakich and Natalie Clippert finalize plans. "We see our positions as ring leaders as opposed to president and vice-president," Natalie said. "We weren't really in charge of anyone. We merely worked on making sure things always went as planned."

### FILLING THE CRACKS

Filling the frame with pieces of colored tissue paper, juniors Kate Laudermilk, Laura Lautz, Lauren Cherrier, and Ryann Perlinski work on the junior Homecoming float. With the position of junior CEC president Kate answered for the group and made sure everything got done well and on time.

**German Club** *(front row)* Darshak Joshi, Sara Harvey, Stacy Zuick, James Manuel, Teo Ellis *(second row)* Sara Frigo, Valerie Umlauf, Chris Topor, Jimmy Hennes, Katie Landowski, Nikki Patterson *(third row)* Linda Landowski, Maxwell Nhamoah, Madeline Grdina, Kelley O'Brien, Jeff Kovacich *(back row)* Becka Stork, John Nootens, Steve Coulis, John Bumakowsk, Mark Hannigan, Claire Robertson

**German Club** *(front row)* Michelle Miskimins, Mark Evans, Amanda Stump, Stacey Welsh, Katherine Sampias *(second row)* Michelle McIntyre, Dan Budilovsky, Bhavik Nana, Matthew Matz, Elizabeth Wible, Sarah-Anne Lanman *(third row)* Ian Holloway, Aubrey Burdeau, Emily Alberti, Jen Vicendak, Jovica Balac *(back row)* Lyndsay Langbehn, Jaime Zlamal, Michelle Potter, Puja Kathrotiya, John Herr, Michael Thompson

**German Club** *(front row)* Esther Economou, Melissa Kerzner, Ashley Drobac, Jasmine Pappas, Amanda Pogach *(second row)* Rachel Pucalik, Kirstin Bularzik, Deana Miskimins, Stana Romic, Shannon Zenos, Rachel Kevin *(back row)* Jon Kutas, James Economou, Laura Hruska, Kaylen Huggy, Nicholas Thaera

**Munster Theatre Company** *(front row)* Ryan Blanchard, Justin Dal Corobbo, Phillip Shapiro, Chris Carlos, Matthew Spyrka, Kristen Kendall *(second row)* Julie Nelson, Emily Diekelmann, Emily Bradley, Genevieve Grdina, Carolyn Jania, Lindsey Ellingsen, Allison Hasselof *(third row)* Ryan Drees, Daniel Albrecht-Mallinger, Matthew Tepperman, Matt Gifford, Ashley Troumouliaris, Sara Dobrinich, Matt Domasica *(back row)* Kristina Kesely, Niki Cacich, Dan Phillips, David Pavkovich, Craig Talbot, Andrew Bridgman, Joey Manderino

## German Club

Officers: Kelley O'Brien, President; Emily Alberti, Vice President

Sponsor: Mrs. Eileen Meier

What's in it for them? Members built and decorated gingerbread houses in order to celebrate German heritage and culture.

## Munster Theater Co.

Officers: Matt Domasica, President; Lenny Weiss and Ashley Troumouliaris, Vice President

Sponsor: Mr. Larry Brechner

What's in it for them? Dedidacated to providing entertainment, Munster Theater Company produced four productions during the year.

**Munster Theatre Company** *(front row)* Amanda Pogach, Nicole Rogers, Ben Mann, Sara Harvey, Stacey Welsh, Kaylen Huggy *(second row)* Rachel Gosciej, Irena Hnatusko, Brandi Bishop, Molly Hanson, Elizabeth Van Wieren, Booram Ur *(third row)* Kirstin Bularzik, Nancy Bielfeldt, Lauren Banas, Danielle Gillund, Chetan Chaubal, Erica Ranade, Cristina Benavente, Cara Witecki *(back row)* Julie Kiekenapp, Kim Markovich, Lyndsay Langbehn, Leslie Parker, Paige Popravak, Anna Rak, Lenny Weiss

**Munster Theatre Company** *(front row)* Marie Welsh, Lindsay Weiss, John Mihich, Patrick Los, Kelly McWilliams *(second row)* Marnan Campos, David Johnson, Manini Gupta, Elise Miller, Emilee Vandersluis, Sarah Standley *(third row)* Becka Stork, Saba Ahmed, Rachel Mihich, Krystle Murzyn, Mike Graczyk, Katie Harvey, Eric Zyglowicz, Rachel Kevin *(back row)* Jim Bochnowski, Michelle Potter, Martin Blumberg, Mike Hughes, Michelle Miskimins, Chris Sipes, Chris Maloney

## National Honor Society

Officers: Robbie Collins, president; Raechelle Medellin, vice president; Amy Hayes, secretary; Payal Keshvani, treasurer

Sponsor: Mrs. Linda Scheffer

What's in it for them? Committed to providing service to those in need, the club offered a year-round tutoring service to fellow students and awarded those who volunteered around the region.

**National Honor Society** *(front row)* Rachel Kevin, Mirjana Lakich, Ryan Miller, Lee Murphy, Natalie Clippert *(second row)* Melissa Diekelmann, Jenny Nelson, Joshua Levin, Jon Pleitner, Melissa Boeck-man, Mike Kalina *(third row)* Steve Coulis, Dustin Moriarty, Alex Cheng, Mike Stoffregen, Dave Watson *(back row)* Jon Kutas, Jeff Harris, Alex Pilawski, Robbie Collins, Zach Holobowski, Russel Patel

**National Honor Society** *(front row)* Sonal Gupta, Ian Holloway, Amy Hayes, Lauren Hamblin, Katie Landowski *(second row)* Nidhi Kansal, Caitlin Hawryszkow, Anna Kretz, David Ellis, Vita Lazauskas, NickThaera *(third row)* Amanda Porta, Jillian Hmurovic, Gabe Culberg, Marica Coduti, Lenny Weiss *(back row)* Chris Carlos, Mike Helfen, Kelley O'Brien, Greg Pottorff, Jill Sinchak, Peach Roman-Lagunas

### ON CUE

With her eyes on her music as she marches across the football field, Stephanie Scully, sophomore, concentrates on staying in tune and on rhythm during the halftime show. Marching routines required weeks of training to nail down the perfect timing and coordination to pull off the desired visual effect.

### BUSY BODIES

Late one Thursday night, Dave Watson, senior, adds a basketball caption for his *Crier* page as Rachel Medina, junior, hurries to finish her *Paragon* spread before the 9 o'clock deadline. "The two staffs shared one computer lab and frequently had the same deadline night," Dave said. "Servers always shut down unexpectedly as everyone frantically tried to make their deadline."

### FUN AND GAMES

As four students pedal down the track, Student Government members cheer from behind. "It was hard to think of original games to play during the pep rally," Richelle Medellin, senior, said. "But I thought the games this time were fun to watch. I only wished I participated."

### BATTER UP

To commemorate the Day of the Dead, Roli Mandhana, freshman, swings at a piñata. Taking one of the earlier turns, Roli couldn't crack the piñata open. "It was so hard when we couldn't see where we were hitting," Roli said. "I didn't swing too hard because I didn't want to hit anyone."

# BLOWING OFF STEAM

*Every club comes with the unavoidable hassles and responsibilities that make students cringe at their very thought*

Carefully adding finishing touches to the Prom table centerpieces, Todd Dell'Aquila, junior, rubbed off all the excess glitter from his hands. As a member of Junior CEC, Todd served on the Prom planning committee and spent an entire month creating 55 individual table decorations to match the "Sweet Home Chicago" theme.

The committee first had to cut foam boards into city skylines, coat each cutout with black spray paint, and then fold them into triangles.

"It wasn't necessarily difficult; it was just time-consuming," Todd said. "We had to construct so many skylines using a long, step-by-step process. I always had a splitting headache from all the fumes from the spray paint."

Todd, like many other extracurricular enthusiasts, soon discovered that club participation meant hours of hard work and dedication. Painstaking activities ranged from door-to-door fundraising to dealing with slackers who just sat on the sidelines and refused to lend a helping hand.

With her involvement in DECA, Ashley Chemerinsky, junior, encountered the troubles with fundraising. After elected as the District One President, Ashley not only had the responsibility of creating a new website and newsletter, but she also had to help raise money for the district committee's trip down to Orlando, FL for the national competition.

Ashley contacted over fifty area businesses by letter or in person and discovered the inherent hassles of asking for donations.

"Some people didn't even know what DECA was, and some said they didn't have any extra money to give," Ashley said. "It was hard going in there and asking them for the money. I kept calling some people back and some really got annoyed. The worst part was having to keep on their backs to give money."

While Ashley had some trouble finding businesses to donate to her fund, Tamiko Toyama, freshman, had trouble dealing with too many students eager to pay $1.50 for a dish of vanilla ice cream. During SADD's annual ice cream fundraiser, students stormed the sundae tables during lunch. The club's success of raising $270 caused members to provide service for lines of hungry students.

"The ice cream was really hard, and a huge line would form," Tamiko said. "When there was no line, people would take a break and not get things ready. When there was a line again, we weren't ready for the customer, and we could never catch up."

Tamiko's problem with workers taking too

*(continued on page 184)*

RECORD PERFORMANCE
In perfect harmony Jordan Barnes, sophomore, and Matt Domasica, senior, record a Christmas CD at Westminster Presbyterian Church. "During the day that we were there, we had to do the songs over and over again," Matt said. "It was just a pain to do the same song three or four times and then stop because somebody coughed. We all had fun, but it was one of those days I wouldn't want to do again."

(continued from page 183)

# BLOWING OFF STEAM

many breaks also created a headache for Scott Vandersteen, sophomore. As part of the Sophomore CEC's attempt to create the class's Homecoming float, Scott had to work among classmates who preferred to socialize rather than help out.

"They were just in the way," Scott said. "We'd be working, and they'd sit there and eat pizza in front of us. The food was there for the people who worked. In the end the float was so bad we had to put someone underneath the floorboard during the parade just so the goalpost wouldn't fall over."

Despite the third place finish in the spirit competition, Scott never regretted his float-building experience. Even if given the chance to alter the past, he wouldn't change a thing.

"I still thought we did a half-decent job," Scott said. "Times like that were the kind of experiences you had in high school."

Scott accepted the fact that many members often failed to add the same effort he put into a project. He coped with the unfortunate problem of dealing with students who lacked commitment, an all-too-common hassle with extracurricular activities.

Amnesty International Assistant Coordinator Connie Kuo, senior, found difficulty dealing with the loafers trying claim recognition without working. She couldn't believe the amount of people who signed up to join the club in the fall only to dodge their responsibilities later in the year.

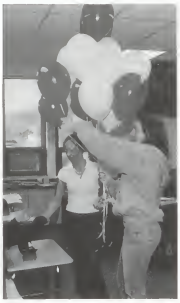
With only 10 members usually attending the Monday meetings, Connie stood in shock to see 34 "members" show up to have their picture taken for the yearbook.

"I was disappointed that people would claim to be in a club just to get their picture in the yearbook," Connie said. "I never even saw half of them since August. We met for fifteen minutes a week. How hard was that? If they couldn't make the meetings, they shouldn't have joined in the first place."

Connie's troubles with unmotivated students marked just one hassle that came with the territory of joining a club. However, from Todd's perspective all the hard work finally paid off. After a year of planning and fundraising, hundreds of students relished their Prom night as they danced to the bluesy tunes of a "Sweet Home Chicago."

GIFTED STUDENTS
Filling gift shoeboxes with toothpaste and toys, sophomore Elizabeth Van Wieren, junior Claire Robertson, and sophomore Michelle Jones participate in the Student Government's project to send presents to children around the world for the holidays.

ORDER OF THE DAY
To make up missed hours of work, Murad Omery, junior, organizes ballots for Lincoln Douglas Debate during the Munster Meet. "There were a lot of hours that we had to make up if we missed the chicken barbeque," Murad said. "I didn't really mind though because everyone pretty much had to do their own part to help the team."



UP IN THE AIR
Raising money for their annual Homecoming fundraiser, DECA members Sondra Leslie and Sarah Laymon, sophomores, hand out red and white balloons to seniors.

POWER PLAY
One week before *Rehearsal for Murder*, Chris Sipes, junior, drills in a picture frame. "Clubs took up a lot of your time," Chris said. "We had shows on Saturdays, Sundays and even in the summer. But it was well worth it."

### DOWN TO THE WIRE

After choosing Batman as the senior mascot to follow the superhero theme, Matt Banach, senior, bends wire to form the frame of the Batmobile. "We originally wanted the wheels to spin and for smoke to come out," Matt said. "But it was too difficult, so we ended up just having the hubcaps spin and no smoke."

### GOAL ORIENTED

Helping to build the sophomore float, Kristina Standley and Justin Hernandez, sophomores, cut through PVC pipes to construct their goalpost.

**National Honor Society** *(front row)* Neema Shah, Payal Keshvani, Ashley Velchek, Alana Salata, Shannon Zenos *(second row)* Richelle Medellin, Leslie Parker, Lauren Mikler, Coleen Adley, Raechelle Medellin, Lisa Rietmann *(third row)* Connie Kuo, Jeff Newcomb, Gina Selent, Beth Herrin, Puja Kathrotiya, Allison Crary *(back row)* Jennifer Zivich, Anna Borgo, Courtney Mambourg, Emily Yttri, Nikki Williamson, Kelly Markovich

## Orchestra

Officers: Stephanie Rangel, president; Andrew Sharp, vice president; Tina Shieh, treasurer; Casey Kolderup, secretary

Sponsors: Mr. Soo Han and Mrs. Jill Cooke

What's in it for us?
With four concerts a year, the musicians prepared themselves for the ISSMA competition where they performed in front of a committee of judges who ranked the group based on their musical merit.

**Orchestra** *(front row)* Elise Eldert, Stephanie Rangel, Christia Bieda, Connie Kuo, Marnan Campos *(second row)* Tina Shieh, Vita Lazauskas, Katie Daniels, Kaylen Huggy, Alyson Pilawski, Marko Medynsky *(third row)* Andrew Schutz, Amit Shah, Goran Zarkovic, Chetan Chaubal, Kristina Kovacevich *(back row)* Darcie Kozlowski, Doug Boyer, Andrew Sharp, Mark Sikora, Casey Kolderup, Julie Nelson

**Orchestra** *(front row)* Suman Rao, Jawad Omery, Kim Hawkins, Suzy Acosta, Rachel Mihich, Helen Sroka *(second row)* Krystle Murzyn, Robert Schoon, Steve Hus, Stephanie Frank, Murad Omery, Satya Hegde *(back row)* Armando Casas, Lauren Cherrier, Lisa Demkowicz, Ryan Anderson, Spelios Bacoyanis, David Resler, Chris Ondo

## *Paragon*

Officers: Chris Carlos, editor-in-chief
Sponsor: Mrs. Nancy Hastings

What's In It For Them?
The staff produced a nationally-renown yearbook to capture the lives of the student body

**Paragon** *(front row)* Mrs. Nancy Hastings, Kersten Kelly, Payal Keshvani, Rachel Medina, Lisa Krismanick *(back row)* Kathy Pycinska, Jeff Furticella, Chris Carlos, Amanda Reuter

## Ping Pong Club

Officers: Connie Kuo and Robbie Collins, founders

Sponsor: Ms. Val Pflum

What's in it for them?
Every Friday afternoon, the club stormed the Commons area to provide students with a welcomed break from a strenuous week of studies.

**Ping Pong Club** *(front row)* Matthew Spyrka, Jason Specyal, Casey Kolderup, David McWilliams, Ajay Patwari *(second row)* Arnab Dasgupta, Ryan Miller, Doug Coyle, Jeff Harris, Dan Alspach, Steve Coulis *(third row)* Tom Barnes, Tim Daugherty, Ryan Szanyi, Terry Crouch, Dustin Moriarty *(back row)* Jimmy Gonzales, Zach Holobowski, Russel Patel, Michael Stoffregen, Robbie Collins, Alex Cheng

**Ping Pong Club** *(front row)* Bhavik Noman, Troy Velasquez, Chris Kozlowski, Eric Appelsies, Ashley Gajda *(second row)* Celeste Tiberi, Raechelle Medellin, Leslie Parker, Richelle Medellin, Ian Holloway, Amit Shah, Alex Feldman, Kate Hanas, Julia Konopasek, Amanda Porta, Lauren Mikler *(back row)* Scott Goodwin, Gabriel Blakeley, Stephanie Dybel, Emily Alberti, Sara Gregson, Carolyn Jania

**Ping Pong Club** *(front row)* Connie Kuo, Amanda Pogach, Alex Cosovic, Armando Casas *(second row)* Mike McNicholas, Steve Alspach, Rob Schoon, Neel Shah, Daniel Spungen *(third row)* Evan Compton, Shivani Sharma, Emily Clark, Andrea Coulis, Becka Stork *(back row)* Ashley Carlson, Sarah Liszka, Alex Ruich, Paige Popravak, Jessica Arens, Kristina Standley

## Project X

Officers: Allison Crary, president Mirjana Lakich, vice president Jenny Nelson, secretary Natalie Clippert, treasurer

Sponsor: Mrs. Linda Adams

What's in it for them? Selling ribbons and receiving over $800 for the Todd Beamer Foundation, the 25 members of Project X worked to better the community through charitable acts.

**Project X** *(front row)* Ajay Patwari, Ryann Perlinski, Allison Hasselloff, Laura Lautz, Leah Alberson, Breanne Bizon, Kaitlin Rebesco *(second row)* Alex Cheng, Russel Patel, Melissa Boeckman, Andy Stevens, Mike Stoffregen, Christine Johnson *(third row)* Nathan Schmidt, Dustin Schmidt, Lenny Weiss, David Ellis, Kelley O'Brien *(back row)* Gabe Culberg, David Porter, John Dumakowski, Adam Kaufman, Adam Kalemba, Josh Levin

**Project X** *(front row)* Luo Hia Zheng, Emily Alberti, Todd Dell'Aquila, Kate Laudermilk, James Mayfield *(second row)* Kristina Standley, Emily Yttri, Laura Cuevas, Darshak Joshi, Renee Anderson, Kathy Ntiamoah *(third row)* Amit Shah, Neel Shah, Kara Kozlowski, Lauren Mikler, Paige Popravak *(back row)* Lydia Carle, Leslie Parker, Julie Nelson, Genevieve Grdina, Morgan Geberin, Courtney Mambourg

**Project X** *(front row)* Lane Wagner, Alex Ruich, Erica Stout, Becka Stork, Emily Clark *(second row)* Suman Rao, Booram Ur, Branka Romic, Dragana Petrovic, Dijita Sundi, Jessica Arens *(third row)* Stana Romic, Carolyn Jania, Natalia Paez, Stephanie Dybel, Sara Gregson *(back row)* Kara Clark, Katie Landowski, Puja Kathrotiya, Gina Selent, Amber Jernigan, Jacqui Hayes

### REACH FOR THE SKY

With a piece of tape, Tamiko Toyama, freshman, hangs a sign announcing the informal dance. Along with Student Government, Tamiko also involved herself in cheerleading. "It was an awesome feeling to get involved all the time," Tamiko said.

### BLOW THE HORN

Playing his instrument, David Zagorski, sophomore, marches with the band in a performance at a football game. "Band was a great experience for me because I loved to play music, and I entertained people at the same time," David said.

# CAUGHT IN THE ACT

*Whether dancing onstage or playing instruments at a concert, clubs entertain people by showcasing talents of the students involved in them*

Classic rock tunes sounded from a stereo backstage as Mike Hughes, freshman, sang before his upcoming performance. Attempting to calm down and relax, Mike prepared to act to his highest potential by loosening up before the show.

The Munster Theater Company provided entertainment to students and to the public through the plays and shows they presented. Nervous and apprehensive feelings melted away when actors and the audience felt the same feelings and related, according to Mike.

"Theater was a source of happiness and enjoyment for families and individuals," Mike said. "It was entertaining to people who came to shows because it gave people a new perspective on the actors' true personalities, and it showed who they really were through acting."

During the actual performances, students worked behind the scenes to make productions possible. Coordinating the music, lights and sound, Auditorium Staff members helped make productions run more smoothly.

The workers dealt with angry students banging on doors to enter the show in between intermissions, people fighting for programs, and children running through the hall unsupervised, according to Craig Talbot, junior.

"The satisfaction of the finished production was worth the havoc that occurred at any performance we ran," Craig said. "I enjoyed the theater because it was a place where someone could be transformed through the work of their character. It was always new and exciting."

Mixed Ensemble provided entertainment when it performed at its annual spring concert. Members felt satisfied by providing entertainment for the large audience, according to Katie Szewka, junior. By working to learn the music, members performed with ease.

"Entertaining people through music was a gift to all people who did it," Katie said. "When we finished, the pressure was off; and people knew what we worked on for so long."

Music brought out students' talents during concerts and special activities that the clubs supported. The Orchestra performed seasonally and demonstrated their hard work, according to Stephanie Rangel, junior.

As he listened for his cue to make his entrance, Mike quickly finished his pre-show ritual and realized that he had to go on stage. Peering at the audience, he felt prepared to perform well and to provide entertainment through acting to the audience.

DIRECT INFORMATION
Singing along to the music, Sara Dobrinich, junior, acts as a tiger in the play *A Funny Thing Happend on the Way to the Forum*. "I loved acting because I brought the crowd joy and had fun at the same time," Sara said.

DIRECT HIT
Directing students at Ping Pong Club, Miss Valerie Pflum, Math teacher, gives advice to students just starting out. "While being the sponsor of the club, I learned more about Ping Pong," Miss Pflum said. "I improved my skills while others did theirs."

**Project X:** *(front row)* Ashley Carlson, Beth Herrin, Emily Lawrence, Kelly Markovich, Erica Bhavsar *(second row)* Lindsey Steele, Rachel Pucalik, Denny Lee, Valerie Umlauf, Emily E. Jones, Emily Stine *(back row)* Armando Casas, Sarah Standley, Shobha Pai, Brandon Chynoweth, Kory Aktay

**Project X:** *(front row)* Mirjana Lakich, Natalie Clippert, Jenny Nelson, Allison Crary, Mrs. Linda Adams *(second row)* Amanda Pogach, Marnan Campos, Cara Witecki, Kavita Nana, Soumya Gupta *(back row)* Lindsay Weiss, Ashley Cook, Branka Bastaic, Milka Bastaic, Jenny Michalski, Tamiko Toyama

## Quill and Scroll

Sponsor: Mrs. Nancy Hastings, journalism advisor

**Quill and Scroll** *(front row)* Payal Keshvani, Chris Carlos, Leslie Parker *(back row)* Jeff Furticella, Joey Manderino, David Watson

## SADD

Officers: Coleen Adley, president; Gina Selent, vice president; Mrs. Darlene Acosta, sponsor

What's in it for them? Partaking in the chance to steer students toward healthy directions, the club gained the satisfaction of serving the school.

**SADD** *(front row)* Alex Feldman, Coleen Adley, Amy Hayes, Katie Landowski *(second row)* Kara Clark, Matt Westerlund, John Dumakowski, Adam Kaufman, Julie Bassetto, Josh Levin *(third row)* Becka Stork, Natalia Paez, Linda Landowski, Genevieve Grdina, Jacqui Hayes *(back row)* Emily Yttri, Melissa Diekelmann, Valerie Umlauf, Tamiko Toyama, Luo Jia Zheng, Stephanie Volkoff

**SADD** *(front row)* Michelle Becka, Sheiphali Gandhi, Emily Lawrence, Lindsey Steele, Shannon Zenos *(second row)* Emily Stine, Kelly Markovich, Kavita Nana, Soumya Gupta, Gina Selent, Kate Laudermilk *(back row)* Amanda Pogach, Branka Romic, Lindsay Mambourg, Lauren Banas, Erica Bhavsar, Bhavik Nana, Cristina Benavente

### CHOICE FOR ME

Ready to sign, juniors Natalia Paez and Jacqui Hayes pledge to maintain a drug-free lifestyle. "I wanted to help by saving the lives of other people and myself," Natalia said.

### DRESS UP

As performance time for the spring concert approaches, juniors Lauren Banas and Kimmy Balzer fix their ties before heading out onto the stage with the rest of Women's Ensemble.

### SUPPORT GROUP

With Mr. Mike Gordon's direction, juniors Billy Lewis and Mike Friedman work on their float. "Mr. Gordon regulated everything," Billy said. "He made sure that we did a great job. The project was so long and time consuming that we were grateful."

### PRESSURE POINT

Using her makeup techniques, Cristina Benavente, sophomore, adds a touch of shadow to Ashley Troumouliaris, junior, before a play performance. "It helped that Cristina was there to calm me down before I went onstage," Ashley said.

# SIGN ME UP

*While students write to foreign countries, build homecoming floats, tutor each other in challenging subjects, and make pledges to remain drug-free, they learn the importance and skill of helping other people*

After finding a cause that concerned her, Becka Stork, freshman, wrote letters to the African Prime Minister addressing a wrongly imprisoned boy's rights. Visiting Amnesty International's resource web site, she found other areas that she hoped to address at another club meeting.

"I liked to help out because it showed that students weren't as apathetic as people thought," Becka said. "We weren't slackers."

As a freshman, Becka joined Amnesty International and soon found that she enjoyed the club's constant involvement in helping others. Members worked to get more students aware of human rights and unjust crimes committed around the world. Having the opportunity to assist people allowed Becka to promote human rights, one of her concerns.

"I felt like I was really well off," Becka said. "The least that I could do was to write letters to people in other countries who were having their rights taken away unfairly."

Other students like Becka contributed to the community through school organizations like Project X and SADD. Matt Westerlund, freshman, participated in SADD, an important club beneficial in steering students in a safe and healthy direction, according to Matt.

"It was important because teenagers needed to be informed about the risks of drunk driving," Matt said. "I had a close family member who died because of a drunk driver, so I was really involved in this club."

While members of SADD fought to ensure that students made the right choices, members of the National Honor Society like Jon Kutas, senior, helped students with academic problems by tutoring. He felt gratification from knowing that they benefited from the study sessions.

"For about a month, I was tutoring someone once a week in math," Jon said. "At first she came to me with 30% test scores, but after a while she was pulling better grades. On a [later] test she scored an 88%. I enjoyed it because I felt like I was making a difference and that it was worth my time to help."

Other organizations such as the Auditorium Staff helped serve the school by doing behind-the-scenes work. Julie Kiekenapp, junior, worked as the house manager on the staff. The club offered assistance by doing numerous jobs from handling technical problems to passing out the play programs before the show.

"We really helped the community because we were there to essentially serve," Julie said. "We saved the group not only money, but the hassle of dealing with the public. It really became a passion for me. The auditorium was my life in high school summed up. If I could forget about my own problems by helping others, then it was a win-win situation."

MILK MAIDS
With crates in hand, sophomores Neerja Prasad and Amanda Pogach bring milk to the cafeteria for the Speech Barbeque. "We helped Miss [Becky] Ladd because we wanted to give support and be there for the people that looked forward to the barbeque every year," Amanda said.

## Spanish Club

Officers: Raechelle Medellin, president; Richelle Medellin, vice president; Sonal Gupta, Secretary; Russel Patel, treasurer
Sponsor: Ms. Jennifer Luksich

What's in it for them? Raised money for Caesar Chavez house and contributed to IU Honors.

**Spanish Club** *(front row)* Leah Alberson, Sarah Liszka, Amit Shah, Chirag Barai, Kristina Kovacevich, Amanda Garcia *(second row)* Ajay Patwari, Morgan Geberin, Elizabeth Volkoff, Allison Hanas, Darshak Joshi *(third row)* Nicole Castor, Chetan Chaubal. Patrick Pataky, Jillian Hmurovic, Allison Hasselof, Amanda Pogach *(back row)* Joanna Biestek, Sara Pappas, Linda Landowski, Niki Cacich, Ryan Miller, Matt Westerlund, Denny Lee

**Spanish Club** *(front row)* Booram Ur, Shobha Pai, Molly Hanson, Dijita Sundi, Alissa Rosario, Erika Molina *(second row)* Krystle Murzyn, Susan Suszczyk, Abbie Jercha, Ashley Gajda, Arielle Dejnowski, Lauren Banas *(third row)* Todd Loden, Kristina Standley, Katie Harvey, Tamiko Toyama, Natalie Banka, Marnan Campos *(back row)* Ashley Cook, Alyson Patton, Monica Manoski, Becka Stork, Katie Watterson, Celeste Tiberi, Natalia Paez

**Spanish Club** *(front row)* Lindy Hernandez, Kavita Nana, Michelle Jones, Erica Bhavsar, Michelle Becka, Anna Rak, Erica Ranade *(second row)* Cristina Benavente Natalie Manchak, Soumya Gupta, Roli Mandhana, Payal Keshvani, Kelly McWilliams *(third row)* Sheiphali Gandhi, Rohini Chatterjee, Andrea Coulis, Jen Conley, Alexa Harris, Sarah Standley *(back row)* Antonio Cisneros, Arun Umapathy, Richelle Medellin, Raechelle Medellin, Russel Patel, Sonal Gupta, Paige Popravak

## Speech and Debate

Officers: David Ellis, President; Chris Carlos, Vice President; Jaime Shapiro, Corresponding Secretary; Jill Young, Recording Secretary; Lenny Weiss, Treasurer
Sponsor: Mrs. Helen Engstrom

What's in it for them? Hard work and effort led the speech team to place second at State and take seven students to Nationals.

**Speech and Debate** *(front row)* Chetan Chaubal, Genevieve Grdina, Lindsey Ellingsen, Elizabeth Wible, Ashley Troumoulliaris, Jessica Conger *(second row)* Madeline Grdina, Mike Hughes, Justin Dal Corobbo, Abe Najamuddin, Ajay Patwari, Linda Lan-dowski*(third row)* Matt Gifford, Andrew Bridgman, Daniel Witkus, Matt Tepperman, Phillip Shapiro, Jim Bochnowski *(back row)* Joey Manderino, Chris Topor, Jason Gott, David Pavkovich, Jon Fisher, Carlos Alvarez

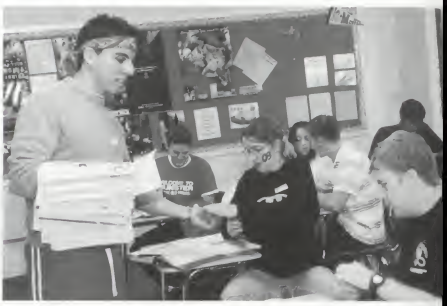
**Speech and Debate** *(front row)* Kim Dooley, Cara Witecki, Tina Shieh, Kavita Nana, Neerja Prasad *(second row)* Andrew Schutz, Meghan Guthrie, Denny Lee, Dijita Sundi, Shobha Pai, Becka Stork, Tamiko Toyama *(third row)*Lindsay Weiss, Murad Omery, Lyndsay Langbehn, Lea Kilibarda, Katie Harvey, Michelle Potter *(back row)* David Johnson, Gordana Radmilovic, Paige Popravak, Alex Pavkovich, Katie Watterson, Manini Gupta, Kristina Kovacevich, Sheiphali Gandhi

### NEWSWORTHY

As Tyson Blake, sophomore, and Lisa Demkowicz, senior, pay with quarters, *Crier* editor-in-chief Joey Manderino, senior, hands out the paper. "The most rewarding part about *Crier* was the final product," Joey said. "When you held that completed paper in your hand, it made all the long hours and stress worthwhile."

### SPOON FULL

Serving an ice cream sundae to a student desiring sprinkles, Natalia Paez, junior, works the SADD fundraiser during lunch. "By selling the sundaes, we were able to raise the money to provide the students with gifts before Prom weekend as an attempt to remind them about the dangers of drinking and driving," Natalia said.



# PLAYING TO THE CROWD

*Striving to serve the student body intellectual needs, members find themselves providing entertainment, distributing publications or raising funds to contribute school atmosphere*

As Gina Rebesco, freshman, met with her fellow Student Government members, she discussed with them the upcoming plans for the Homecoming pep rally. As a freshman, Gina wanted to take part in the planning of school functions and helping the student body by running for a position on the Student Government.

"I decided to get involved with Student Government because I knew it would make me more involved with school activities than most students were," Gina said. "As a member, I could lend a hand in the planning. Also, it made it easy to know what was going on around school. I wanted to make the events we planned fun so students could find school to be a more enjoyable place."

Assembling a fish tank in Aquarium Club sponsor Miss Jennifer Luksich's room, Jim Knesek, junior, worked with other club members to display marine life around the school. Because of his interest in fish and aquariums, Jim created the club the previous year to give his peers the opportunity to view fish throughout the school. This provided a diversion and took away some of the stress from school, according to Jim. However, the display didn't work out as planned.

"Miss Luksich and the rest of the club couldn't understand why the fish weren't living for long," Jim said. "I believed some of the fish didn't like being in school, similar to how us students felt."

Clubs such as SADD took upon the mission of educating students about destructive decisions, with their main focus on drinking and driving. By hanging up posters around school the week before the Homecoming dance, Kavita Nana, sophomore, attempted to convince students not to drink and drive by supplying them with facts on the dangers.

"If you could help someone and save a life because you realized the consequences to such actions and wanted to share the information, it was important that you did so that students saw the statistics and hopefully realized not to drink and drive, "Kavita said.

When Gina attended the pep rally, she realized that the results of Student Government's preparations had paid off. The time she had put into the event proved worthwhile after she saw the student body having a great time cheering on their classes, according to Gina.

SOUND OFF
Marching out on to the football field, Josh Raycroft, junior, plays his trumpet as he concentrates to stay on beat. "During halftime the band got the opportunity to go out there and entertain the crowd watching," Josh said. "We showed our spirit through music and by playing the school song and the providing entertainment ."

MEMORY NOTES
Trading yearbooks to sign, sophomores Manini Gupta, Elise Miller, and Amanda Pogach write messages about memories from the previous year, according to Manini. "I purchased a yearbook because I knew it was fun to look back and see how people changed," Manini said. "It allowed you to recap and summarize a year of your life."

WISHFUL THINKING
Adding her best wishes, Allison Crary, senior, makes the finishing touches on her Project X Christmas card for Heartsfield Village. "We each put a lot of club time into making cards that we were proud of delivering," Allison said.

# TEAM EFFORT

*As students stay up all night to bake brownies for the ASL bake sale or to create an innovative poster idea for Student Government, they learn the value of supporting fellow classmates*

With an academic competition drawing near, Sheiphali Gandhi, junior, and her fellow group members reviewed the mountains of study material together. By participating in the Academic Team since her freshman year, Sheiphali learned the benefits of teamwork.

"Before one competition we decided to split up into two groups, the A and B teams," Sheiphali said. "I was on the B team, and we worked together by separating the material in sections so that we were sure that we could get everything covered. The A team didn't do this, and they weren't well prepared."

From SADD's ice cream sale to American Sign Language Club's bake sale, club members helped each other by putting strong efforts into fundraising activities. The Speech and Debate Team's annual chicken barbecue proceeds served as financial support for many of the club's necessities. President David Ellis, senior, knew the importance of club participation.

"It was our only fundraiser for the year," David said. "It was extremely important for us because it went to everything from tournament fees to buses and hotel rooms for Nationals in Atlanta."

Students who competed in clubs rose each other's spirits with precompetition rituals and friendships. Denny Lee, sophomore, participated in debate and felt closest to his team when they sang a chant on the bus to raise team morale.

"We always sang a song that repeated, 'You got to want it to win it, and we want it more,'" Denny said. "The bus rides were emotional because they helped make us feel united and increased the team spirit."

Even having friends in the club encouraged members to continue with their work. *Paragon* copy editor Jaime Shapiro, senior, felt that the pressures of deadlines eased off when she talked to someone who understood her stress.

"The fact that the staff members were friends helped us get through the pressures of deadlines," Jaime said. "I felt better when I could talk to someone who could relate."

Using her copy editing skills, Jaime assisted staff members with their writing. She proofread piles of stories and returned them to the staff after making corrections.

"I tried to make sure that everyone wrote creative stories in proper journalistic style," Jaime said. "By reading every story over several times, I could improve their quality. It was helpful because we needed to write good stories and maintain the high standards that the yearbook always had."

MAKE YOUR MARK
With markers in hand, seniors Mike Stoffregen, Jillian Hmurovic and Janushi Dalal design a poster for Student Government. "We wanted to dazzle other people while getting our message across," Mike said.

### PICTURE PERFECT

After school for *Crier*, Maddie Morley, junior, develops film. "Without the photographers we wouldn't have good publications, so we had to put in extra time," Maddie said.

### DELIVERY BOYS

Headed to the cafeteria, Justin Dal Corobbo, Brad Dunham, and other Speech team members bring supplies to the cafeteria for the annual Speech and Debate Team chicken barbeque.

### VOICES HEARD

For Women's Ensemble seniors Katie Landowski, Peach Roman-Lagunas and Jackie Schneider meet at the Westminster church to make a Christmas CD. "Making the CD took all day from first hour to about 4:30 in the afternoon, but it was a good experience," Jackie said.

**Speech and Debate** *(front row)* Kristine Duray, Saba Ahmed, Shreyas Joshi, Billy Lewis, Gina Stoffregen, Michelle Becka *(second row)* Mike Friedman, Elise Miller, Anna Stariha, Rohini Chatterjee, Payal Keshvani, Jia Hou *(third row)* Amanda Pogach, Heather Phipps, Brett Anderson, Lenny Weiss, Sara Dobrinich, Steve Gorman, Erica Ranade *(back row)* Dana Sarber, Allison Crary, Chris Carlos, Carolyn Jania, David Ellis, Danielle Wilks, Molly Hanson

### Student Government

Officers: Joey Manderino, president; Connie Kuo, vice president; Sponsor: Mr. Mike Wells

What's in it for them? In adressing the Student Body and gaining leadership skills, the club took on a high position.

**Student Government** *(front row)* Tina Shieh, Lenny Weiss, Brogan Guthrie, Emily E Jones, Kelley Fernandez, Suman Rao *(second row)* Mike Shinkan, Julie Nelson, Genevieve Grdina, David Ellis *(back row)* Gina Rebesco, Matt Westerlund, Gabe Culberg, Joey Manderino, Mike Stoffregen, Jeff Marinier

**Student Government** *(front row)* Jill Young, Connie Kuo, Erica Ranade, Shobha Pai *(second row)* Alexa Harris, Richelle Medellin, Raechelle Medellin, Tamiko Toyama *(back row)* Lauren Mikler, Lane Wagner, Sara Dobrinich, Dana Sarber, Coleen Adley

### Thespians

Officers: Matt Domasica, president; Lenny Weiss, vice president; Ashley Troumouliaris, second vice president; Sponsor:Mr. Larry Breckner

What's in it for them? Performing in front of the school, the club showed audiences their acting talents.

**Thespians** *(front row)* Kristen Kendall, Leslie Parker, Chris Carlos, Carolyn Jania, Genevieve Grdina, Justin Dal Corobbo, Molly Hanson *(second row)* Emily Bradley, Ashley Troumouliaris, Lindsey Ellingsen, Matt Domasica, Sara Dobrinich, Marko Medynsky *(back row)* Kristina Kesely, Andrew Bridgman, Craig Talbot, Dan Phillips, Joey Manderino, Daniel Albrecht-Mallinger

**Thespians** *(front row)* Amanda Pogach, Cristina Benavente, Stacey Welsh, Rachel Mihich, Sara Harvey, Rachel Gosciej *(second row)* Erica Ranade, Chris Sipes, Elizabeth Van Wieren, Brandi Bishop, Nicole Rogers, Michelle Miskimins *(back row)* David Johnson, Julie Kiekenapp, Paige Popravak, Jim Bochnowski, Chetan Chaubal, Lenny Weiss

## Keeping the faith

As a CCD teacher at Saint Thomas More Church, Zach Holobowski, senior, taught his students to get them interested in their faith. Zach played the role of Regis Philbin in his version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" and included all the aspects of the game using a 20-foot projection screen.

## Can I see some ID?"

"We just wanted two tickets for *Gangs of New York*."

"Sorry, you have to be 17 to see an R-rated movie."

"Well, is there anything else we *can* see?"

"Umm…*Kangaroo Jack* starts in 10 minutes. There are plenty of seats open."

"Forget this. Let's just go drive around."

"Okay…Hey! Stop the car!"

"What's wrong?!"

"The light's on at Krispy Kreme for fresh doughnuts! We have to get some."

"Sweet. Where do I pull in?"

"Let's go to the drive-thru."

"Awesome! How convenient is that?"

"Welcome to Krispy Kreme.

# may we help you?

*By stretching your brains, you utilized the community to your benefit. Traditionalists opted to rotate between the variety of Greek restaurants, see a late-night movie, or play a round of miniature golf. Those seeking something new searched for a quaint café, went ice skating, or sang karaoke at the local pizza joint. Creative shoppers traveled to thrift stores for bargains, while those needing last minute supplies for a project found a nearby 24-hour store.*

*Whether bagging groceries at Sterk's or mixing a strawberry shake at Dairy Queen, you worked in the community to add a jingle to your pockets. Students sometimes found that money displayed the phenomenon of "the incredible shrinking dollar." With so many resources close at hand, you knew that a quick trip could find anything you needed.* ***Does that complete your order?***

**Service with a smile** In an effort to raise money for the needy, Kevin Penman, freshman, wraps gifts at Borders for Project X. Browsing through Old Navy's selection of sweaters and purses, Kristen Szafasz, sophomore, checks the price tag of a shirt. "During the holiday season, stuff was really expensive, so I couldn't buy what I usually would," Kristen said. "Stores just shot up the prices." At the service of the elderly, Ray Sicinski, junior, serves water at Hartsfield Village.

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**Munster 838-0740**

## senior salute

### james cuban

We can't believe you're graduating. May every success and happiness be yours. Always keep that great sense of humor and smile.

Congratulations!

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Gloria,
Eric and Nick

## senior salute

### brandon thompson

Congratulations on four great years of high school. We are very proud of you. Good Luck at the University of Pennsylvania. We will miss you.

Love, Mom and Dad

## senior salute

### jennifer nelson

Jenny,
You have always managed to find a way to solve life's problems and come out on top. You are a bright shining star in our lives. We wish you all the happiness and joy that life has to offer.

Congratulations on a job well done!

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Julie

## senior salute

### nick stone

You have come a long way. Keep up the good work.

Love,
Dad, Mom,
Alex, and Lizzy

## senior salute

### ben massie

Success is the difference between what one is and what one can become.

All our love,
Mom, Robert,
Grandma and
Grandpa

## the INCREDIBLE SHRINKING dollar

### What did you do when you lacked money?

"I tried to think of creative ways to utilize my time. I found that playing board games, cooking new foods and doing crafts around the house interested me. Not only was I using my time, but I also learned a lot."

**Ana Sretenovic, junior**

"Money never stopped me from having a good time when I didn't have any. Hanging out with my friends on the weekends at one of our houses occupied my time. When we were together, it didn't matter what we did, it was the company we were with. Plus, we always found things to do."

**Marinko Repac, freshman**

"Not having money was just an excuse to get chores done on a night when I would usually go out. I missed out on a night with friends; but I enjoyed relaxing at times, and I got important things finished."

**Gina Selent, senior**

"When I didn't have money, it gave me an excuse to work and make money. From baby-sitting to doing yard work for neighbors or my family, it gave me something to do while earning extra money at the same time. If nothing came up, I usually received some money from my parents to go out on the weekend."

**Allyce Carlson, freshman**

## megan leahy

senior salute

May your music play on in your heart forever.

We are all very proud of you.
Love,
Mom, Gramma,
Larry, Kathy,
Debbie, Russ
and Shellie

## joseph skertich

senior salute

For all you've accomplished...
For all you are...
For all you will be...
**CONGRATULATIONS JOE!**

You've always made me proud,
Love,
Rose

## senior class

senior salute

Congratulations
& Best Wishes
to the
Class of 2003

Paul and Sue
Bochnowski

## ashley velchek

senior salute

Congratulations Ashley. We are very proud of you. Here's to success at the University of Illinois. Remember to
Love the Lord
Laugh Often
Serve Others
Live Well
We will love you throughout time,
Jon, Dad, and Mom!!!

## dominique mercier

senior salute

Dominique,
You have always been a kind and caring girl, always willing to 'share'. Now as you go off to Bethel, we hope and pray that you continue to grow into an even stronger and more confident young woman. We are very proud of you.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Angelique

# MUNSTER "ICEMEN" HOCKEY

## 2002-2003

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| #3 | Michael Pryzbylski | Forward | 11th |
| #4 | John Semko, *Captain* | Defense | 12th |
| #5 | Alex Pozywio | Forward | 11th |
| #14 | Kurt Jorgensen | Defense | 9th |
| #19 | Justin Libak | Defense | 11th |
| #20 | Tom Newman | Goalie | 12th |
| #22 | Andy Doesburg | Defense | 12th |
| #24 | Brian Tepper | Forward | 11th |
| #29 | Kevin Smith | Forward | 11th |
| #30 | Grant Burdeau | Goalie | 10th |
| #31 | Steven Porkornowski | Forward | 11th |
| #42 | Chris Barnes | Forward | 12th |
| #44 | Kenneth Ehlin | Forward | 10th |
| #62 | Jim Sunderland, *Ass't Cpt.* | Forward | 11th |
| #70 | John Cermak | Defense | 11th |
| #77 | Steve Sochacki, *Ass't Cpt.* | Forward | 11th |
| #88 | Jeremy McFadden | Forward | 11th |
| #91 | Greg Van Camp | Defense | 11th |
| #96 | Ben Massie, *Ass't Cpt.* | Defense | 12th |

**Keith Tracy, Coach**
**Jim Sunderland, Assistant Coach**

**No Bones About It**
A small portion of the myriad of **Dr. Lorin's Brown** patients gather in the Commons for a quick picture between school and sports. Athletes and students alike count on Dr. Brown for his expert treatment of their broken bones and various sports injuries.


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## kristina anne mueller

senior salute

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and all of your dreams
for the future!

Congratulations
and Love always,
Mom, Dad,
Kathy & Michael

## celia gonzalez

senior salute

Celia,
Your smile lights up the sky
Your laughter is contagious
Your heart is always full of love
Life has only the best in store for you!!

Love always,
Mom and Dad

## renee albrecht-mallinger

senior salute

Go take the next steps on your journey, and count on your family's love and support every step of the way. We take joy in your every success.

Paul, Daniel,
Mom and Dad

## melissa diekelmann

senior salute

Stay hopeful...
your dreams
will take flight.

Follow your
dreams–
live, love and laugh...
one day at a time
Love,
Mom, Dad,
& Emily

## ian holloway

Ian,

You have given us many reasons to be proud, from "It must be Santa" to soaring with Eagles. We trust your future will be filled with much joy and success!

Love,
Dad, Mom and Elyse

## jason white

senior salute

J-Man,
We're proud of
You!
Go Boilermakers!
We'll miss you.
Love,
Mom, Dad
and Justin

## jeff furticella

senior salute

Best of Luck
Jeff Furticella
*Capture the Moment*
at Ball State
We're proud of you!

Love,
Mom & Dad

## courtney mambourg

senior salute

Courtney,
We wish you happiness and success and 17 words that will never fail you:

Prepare
Listen
Smile
Care
Choose
Focus
Believe
Relax
Act
Forgive
Pray
Trust
Change
Persist
Accept
Risk
Wait

As your family, we cherish this moment. We're very proud and we congratulate you!

Love,
Dad, Mom,
Lindsey, Tommy

## leslie parker

senior salute

Congratulations, Leslie. We are so proud of your high school career. It's been a wonderful journey!

Love,
Mom, Bridget and
Penny

## chris carlos

senior salute

Chris --
You are God's gift to us, and now we want to share you with the world.
Continue to aim high. The sky's the limit.
Good luck at Stanford !

Love,
Mom, Dad, Carlos,
Victor, Vince, Maria,
Luigi and Lia

## 2003 Senior Band Members

**Senior Band Members** *(front row)* Mike Roman, Helen Sroka, Kelly Markovich, Renee Albrecht-Mallinger, Lisa Murray, Marko Medynsky, Melody Spasoff *(second row)* Vita Lazauskas, Robbie Collins, Ben Stork, Megan Leahy *(third row)* Jon Meacham, Melissa Diekelmann, Jenn Ziuich, Diana Cox, Stacy Frank, Gina Selent, Jenny Nelson, Melissa Boekman, Paul Sikora *(back row)* Janet Pleitner

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## senior salute

### derek newell

Dear Derek,
We know you will succeed with whatever you decide to pursue. Your family will always be very proud of you. Never forget who you are, and whose you are. Go get 'em sonshine!

We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Lindsey

## senior salute

### patrick scully

Dear Patrick,
Congratulations! You did a great job and we are so proud of you. Good luck and have fun at Purdue.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Stephanie, and Danielle

## senior salute

### lydia carle

Find happiness doing what you love. We're all proud of you!

Love,
Mom & Dad
Cara & Ben

## senior salute

### lauren jones

Congratulations Lauren!
It's so important that you just do your own thing–
whatever makes you truly happy–
and do it as best you can.
(The Meaning of Life)
Good Luck at ISU!

Love, Dad, Mom, and Matt

## the INCREDIBLE SHRINKING dollar

**What did you save your money for?**

"I usually saved my money for a little while until I had enough to go on a nice shopping spree and also be able to put some in the bank for later use. I thought that it was important to save money and not spend wastefully, but indulging once in a while was sometimes necessary."

**Emily E. Jones, junior**

"I saved my money to go shopping or had fun with my friends. I did save some for a car. I thought that it was important to put some money away in the bank so that I could have some if I needed it later. I always tried not to spend too much money at one time, though. I was worried that I wouldn't have enough money when I wanted to buy things that I needed. Because I was cautious, I think it had helped me to handle my money really well and efficiently."

**Melissa Victor, freshman**

"I decided to save money for a car because it was one of my essentials. I didn't consider myself someone who just wanted things foolishly; but when I went out spending, I usually wasted my money at Scherrillville Golf Center playing Dance Dance Revolution. There have been many times when I've wanted something and hadn't saved enough money for it previously."

**Goran Zarkovic, sophomore**

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As he helps his daughter Jill Young, junior, **Dr. Fredric D. Young, MD**, administers a contact lens exam. Dr. Young provided quality eyecare for the community.

7 9

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## the INCREDIBLE SHRINKING dollar

**What bills did you pay with your own money?**

"I had to pay for my cell phone bill because it was always over the limit. My plan wasn't that great. I only had free minutes on nights and weekends, and I always talked on the weekdays."

**Zhi Zheng, sophomore**

"I had to pay for gas, part of insurance, job requirements, credit card, my cell phone and subscriptions. Paying bills taught me responsibility, how to value a dollar, and also taught me how to work and budget my money. It gave me a sense of ownership, like 'that is mine,' and I had to grant people the power to use my things. It was bad because I was always broke and lazy. In the winter I didn't work, so I tended to give loans to myself from bank accounts; and then those ran dry, so I went to the next account. Finally, I got a side job and earned some spending cash.

**Zach Holobowski, senior**

"My cell phone was a present at first. Once I got a job, my mom told me to pay my cell phone bill. I didn't really mind, but after not paying for a while and then paying, it sucked."

**Elisa Lucatero, junior**

## senior salute

### jillian hmurovic

Jillian,

May you greet every new challenge with a smile. We are proud of you and all your accomplishments. Believe in yourself as we do. May God bless you always.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Danny,
Arial, Coco, Sebastian, and
Jerry

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## senior salute

## christie gilbert

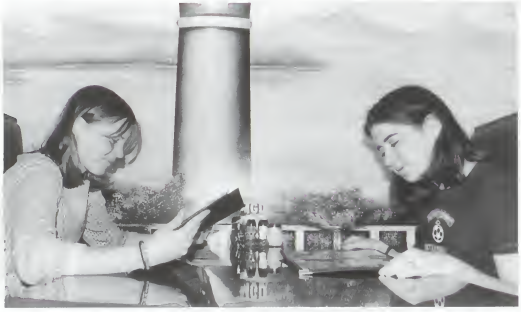
To our "glamour" girl!

We know that your hopes and dreams will lead you to much success.

Always remember that we love you!

Congratulations!

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Katie



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**Food Fix**
Out to eat for the evening, '01 alumni Lindsay Holajter and Michelle Sopher try to decide what dishes they would like to order from the wide variety of Italian food at **Sanfratello's Pizza.**

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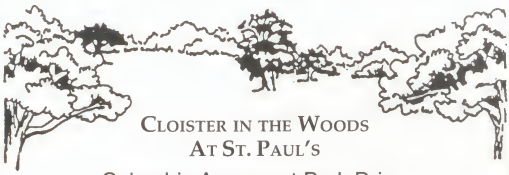

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## the INCREDIBLE SHRINKING dollar

### What type of entertainment would you spend the most money on?

"I would definitely spend money on a concert rather than a CD. You could pretty much download any song you wanted online for free. Plus, concerts were times you remembered for the rest of your life. Who ever talked about that "awesome time you bought that Incubus CD?"

**Andrew Lee, junior**

"Watching a movie at the theater was better because there was the atmosphere that could make the movie more enjoyable. Digital sound and the big screen made movies really great. Spending video store prices was not worth it, when you were just a few dollars short of going to the theater."

**Kristine Duray, senior**

"I would rather rent movies than go to the movie theater because when you watched a movie at home it was more comfortable, and you got to watch the movie more than once for the same price or less than it cost you to go to the movie theater where you couldn't rewind if you missed something."

**Dan Lewis, sophomore**

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### raechelle and richelle medellin

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## the INCREDIBLE SHRINKING dollar

### How did you spend your money on food?

"During the summer I worked as an umpire, and I usually tried to spend very little of my money on food. Aside from the occasional trip to the concession stand, I saved my food money for the weekends when I went out with friends to restaurants like Applebees, El Taco Real, and BW3's."

**Joe Zagorski, freshman**

"I had a job at a tax office in Hammond, so I paid for my own lunch at school. I only bought $5 worth of bagels each week so I could save money."

**Jessica Gorman, sophomore**

"Most of my money was spent on fast food. My friends and I were always in a car, and we were always hungry, so we went through the drive-thru to eat. But the Grade Z meat really got to you in the end."

**Scott Gray, junior**

"I was lucky enough to say that my parents covered all my food expenses, whether I went out to eat or bought food at school. That way, my money that I earned during my summer job was spent on anything I wanted, like clothes."

**Nidhi Kansal, senior**

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Taking a quick break between appointments, Dr. Patel poses for a picture with his employees.

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## peach roman-lagunas

As you follow your dreams, we are right behind you! We wish you happiness, health and love.

Mom, Pop, and J.P.

senior salute

## jennifer zivich

To accomplish great things, you must act as well as dream; plan but also believe. Reach for the stars–believe and dream!

Love,
Mom, Julie and Amanda

senior salute

## zachary holobowski

Congratulations on your many accomplishments! Wishing you the best of everything at Notre Dame and remember we will always be there for you.

All our Love,
Mom, Dad, Ted, Clay and Nathan

senior salute

## ashley gajda

Congratulations! Take control of your destiny; let your destiny take control of your time. Good luck at St. Mary-of-the-Woods.The road of life awaits you!

Love Always,
Mom and Dad

senior salute

## michael roman and nathan mack

Congratulations!
Mike and Nathan
Good Luck in the Future.

Love,
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Roman
and
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Mack

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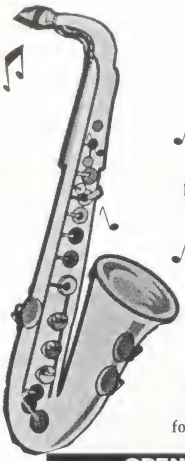

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## the INCREDIBLE SHRINKING dollar

**What gifts did you buy and for what special occasion?**

"This year I went shopping and got a gift for my friend's birthday. I bought a candle with the money I earned doing chores around the house as my allowance. I think it really made her birthday special because I had actually remembered and went out of my way to get a present to show I cared about our friendship."

**Rachel Pucalik, sophmore**

"For my girlfriend Sara [Bradish, junior] and my one-year anniversary, I went to Albert's Jewelers to buy her a present. The workers there helped me pick out a silver bracelet. It's something I thought she would really like, and the look on her face after she opened it told me she really appreciated it and made any cost worthwhile."

**Jordan Ellison, junior**

"For Christmas I went out and bought presents for friends. It got a little too expensive, though. After that I realized I might have gone overboard and needed a job to pay for other expenses and things I needed, so I worked at Dollar Junction."

**Nicole Pavnick, senior**

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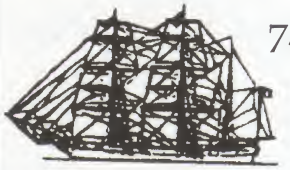

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## class of 2003

senior salute

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Congratulations

## amy hayes

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What an incredible journey...
YOU DID IT, AMY!!!
Your determination, grace, and compassion inspires us to Live Well~Laugh Often~Love Much. You are amazing. May God continue to bless you. We love you. And as always, "We hope you'll dance!" Congratulations, the world is yours!

Mom, Dad and Lindsay
FooFoo, Mack and Jack

## jessica kovach

senior salute

Jess-
Celebrate each day
Dream out loud
Dance without music
Count shooting stars and
Climb to the treetops!

We are so proud of you.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Kris,
Jackie and Kyle

## shannon o'keefe

senior salute

Congratulations Sweetheart.

You have always exceeded our expectations. Good Luck at ASU.

Love,
Mom, Dad and Ian

## kyle martinez

senior salute

We're all so proud,
and admire your strength
when the going got ruff.

YOU ARE THE BEST!

Now we have our sunglasses
on because your future looks
so bright ahead.

We Love You,
God Bless,

Mom, Dad, Christopher,
Grandma and Grandpa A.

## melissa leslie

senior salute

Melissa
Congratulations on your big day!
We are so proud of you and all the goals you have achieved.
Always follow your heart
and your dreams will come true.
Good luck at Purdue University.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Johnny,
Sondra and Elizabeth

## stacy frank

senior salute

Stacy
Your heart is so kind-
we know you
will find your star!

We're so proud of you and
all you have accomplished!

Love,
Mom, Dad and the Girls

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## david watson

senior salute

Life is good!

Make it so
for yourself and
others.

Congrats to Dave
and the
Class of 2003

Jan and Steve
Watson

## ian holloway

senior salute

Ian,

You have given us many reasons to be proud, from "It must be Santa" to soaring with Eagles. We trust your future will be filled with much joy and success!

Love,
Dad, Mom and Elyse

## tiffany thomas

senior salute

Congratulations!
We are so
proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Melissa, Derrick
and Cortney

## senior salute

### amanda studniarz

Amanda,
Words cannot express how proud we are of you! Opportunity is knocking at your door, open it and seize the day!

Congratulations,
Your family

## senior salute

### lauren hamblin

The road ahead will be wonderful, Lauren Hamblin!

Love,
Dad, Mom,
and Jim

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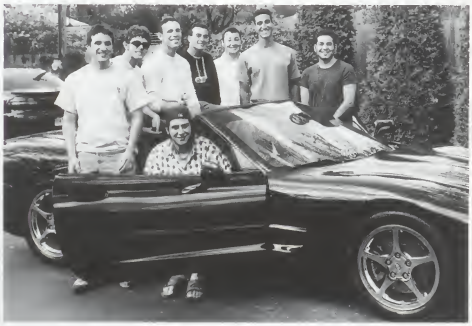
Congratulations Class of 2003!



Hot Wheels
Gathered around Mr. Dean Rothschild's Corvette, seniors Jon Kutas, Josh Levin, Adam Rothschild, Gabe Culberg, Lenny Weiss, David Ellis, Dan Cohen, and Alex Feldman take a break while keeping **Rothschild Insurance Agency** in mind for their future driving needs.

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Enjoying the cool, crisp taste of **Pepsi**, juniors Rachel Medina, Amanda Reuter, Lisa Krismanick, and Kathy Pycinska, alongside seniors Payal Keshvani, Chris Carlos, Jaime Shapiro and Jeff Furticella take a break from their *Paragon* deadline week to quench their late-night thirst.

## senior salute — stephanie bobeck

Dear Stephanie Nichole
You are always in our hearts. May ALL your dreams come true!

Love,
Mom, Jeff, Adam,
Josh & Jacob

## senior salute — amit shah

Congratulations!
You got through four long years of hard work, and you exceeded our greatest expectations for you. We hope you always remember that we are so proud of you and we will miss you every moment you are away from us. Have a great time at IU, and we know you will do well and achieve all your future dreams.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Didi

## school salute — thank you

As I reflect on my high school years, I would like to acknowledge those who helped make my graduation day a reality. Without the support and encouragement of so many, the road I traveled the past three years would have been much more difficult. Thank you so much to my wonderful and dedicated teachers, who definitely went above and beyond to make sure that I received the best education possible. Thank you to the administration and staff for making sure that I was able to stay involved in academic and extracurricular activities. And a huge thank you to my fellow students and loyal friends, you were ALWAYS there for me. These words can only begin to express the gratitude and appreciation I feel. You will always have a special place in my heart forever.

Never stop reaching for the stars.

Believe in miracles.
Love,
Amy Hayes

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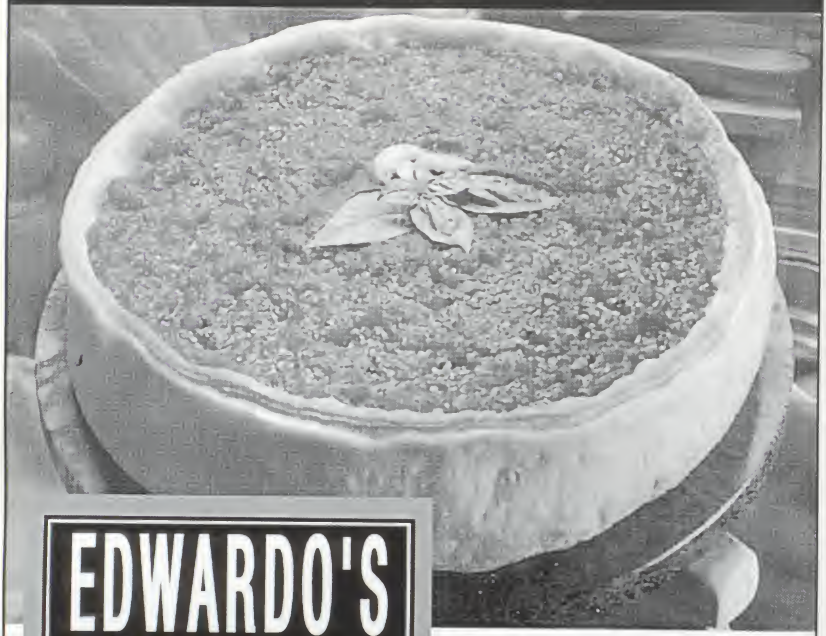

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senior salute

## natalie harris

I did it!
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We love you Natalie!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Brian, Sue, Jimi, Lexi, Livi, Jay and Riley

senior salute

## caitlin muir

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Joe and Sandy Williams
Terry and Rosalie Zavowny
Terry and Chris Zgorka


**senior salute**

**aaron cameron**

Congrats!
We are so proud of you. Stay as sweet and nice as you are now.
Good luck at Valpo.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Nicole

SUPERSTAR

**senior salute**

**tiffany thomas**

Congratulations!
We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Melissa, Derrick and Cortney

# ...find the answers

**Flip through the index to find the who's and what's behind the headlines that consumed 2003**

Students dialed in Ruben as the **American** Idol


ABC Choice 213
Abrahms, Rachel 19, 64
Abu-Aita, Fadi 64
Academic Team 170
Acamovic, Milan 80
Acevez, Mrs. Juliann 170
Achter, Amanda 80, 95, 128, 129
Acosta, Mrs. Darlene 40, 88, 188
Acosta, Suzy 64, 185
Adams, Bryan 80, 120, 160
Adams, Jill 3
Adams, Mrs. Linda 88, 186, 188
Adley, Coleen 40, 48, 178, 181, 185, 188, 193
Adomitis, Tracey 64
Aguilera, Tiffany 64
Ahmed, Saba 64, 158, 173, 174, 182, 193
Akoforo, Ena 73, 160
Aktay, Aja 27, 80, 178
Aktay, Kory 64, 178, 188
Aladdin Travel Agency 219
Alberson, Leah 64, 173, 186, 190
Alberti, Emily 80, 162, 170, 178, 181, 186
Albert's Diamond Jewelers 214
Albertson, Drew 80
Albertson, Mary 48
Albrecht-Mallinger, Daniel 27, 32, 33, 73, 181, 193
Albrecht-Mallinger, Renee 24, 48, 49, 201
Alcala, Elena 73, 87
Alfonsi, Anthony 64, 126
Alfonsi, Dan 80, 178
Alonzo, Elizabeth 73
Alspach, Dan 48, 173, 185
Alspach, Steve 3, 64, 186, 240
Alters, Ashley 73
Alvarado, Dayanna 64
Alvarado, Vanessa 48
Alvarez, Carlos 64, 190
Alvarez, Mario 73
Amaloo, Kelly 48
American Sign Language Club 95, 170, 192
Amnesty International 6, 170, 179, 184, 189
Ancich, Vic 48, 148
Anderson, Brett 64, 144, 170, 193
Anderson, Liz 38, 48, 178, 218
Anderson, Rachel 20, 72, 80
Anderson, Renee 48, 186
Anderson, Ryan 80, 185
Andjelich, Lori 73, 138, 152
Andjelich, Stephanie 80, 87, 138, 152
Andrade, Stephanie 64, 132
Andrews, Steve 40, 64, 126, 136
Anesbro, Stephanie 48
Appelsies, Eric 73, 130, 186
Aquarium Club 173, 191
Are You Serious? 94
Arellano, Alonzo 64
Arens, Jessica 41, 73, 103, 186
Arkfeld, Mrs. Kay 88
Art Club 173
Auditorium Staff 173, 187, 189


**Bush** ordered the liberation of **Baghdad**


Backs, Mr. Matt 122, 148
Bacoyanis, Spelios 73, 177, 185
Baker, Matt 80, 160
Bakker, Chris 64, 130, 136, 148
Bakris, Athena 80, 178
Balac, Jovica 48, 49, 170, 181
Balazs, Jillian 80, 166
Bales, Greg 48
Balicki, Mark 3, 14, 73, 120, 146, 160
Balkam, Rick 48, 148
Balog, Steve 73, 143, 170
Balzer, Kimmy 12, 80, 188
Bamboat, Darius 80, 130
Banach, Bart 80, 120, 137, 160
Banach, Brent 73, 120, 137, 148
Banach, Matt 48, 174, 185
Banach, Stephanie 64, 67, 106
Banas, Angela 64, 129, 138
Banas, Jaqui 73, 170
Banas, Lauren 80, 182, 188, 190
Band, Jazz 173, 174
Bandura, Kaitlin 64, 144, 174
Bank One 216, 223
Banka, Lindsey 10, 64
Banka, Natalie 64, 190
Barai, Chirag 80, 174, 190
Barajas, Ms. Christine 88
Barnes, Chris 199
Barnes, Christine 28, 64, 132
Barnes, Joel 9, 73, 120, 160
Barnes, Jordan 9, 73, 120, 160, 177, 183
Barnes, Tom 48, 160, 185
Bartel, Mrs. Sharon 88
Barth, Tiffany 64
Bartlett, Dr. Timothy 88, 177
Bartniczak, Brian 64
Barton, Mr. Brent 88
Baseball 148
Bassetto, Julie 80, 132, 133, 162, 188
Bastaic, Branka 48, 178, 188
Bastaic, Milka 64, 115, 178, 188
Bates, Mark 64, 122
Battle of the Bands 38
Bauer, Justine 24, 41, 80, 119, 162
Bazan, Ariel 73
Becchino, Brooke 80
Becich, Kyle 73, 120, 160
Becka, Michelle 73, 173, 188, 190, 193
Beezhold, Emily 64, 132, 152
Behrens, George 80, 160
Behrens, Maggie 64, 132, 144, 145
Beliakova, Vicki 40, 48
Belkairous, Natalie 73, 144, 178
Bembenista, Julie 64, 129, 158
Benavente, Cristina 73, 99, 182, 188, 190, 193, 238
Benedek, Jonathan 80, 148
Benedek, Nick 64, 122, 160
Benevenli, Bill 48
Berg, Joselynn 25, 80
Berry, Daniel 64
Bertagnolli, Scott 80
Beverly Tent & Awning 214
Bhavsar, Erica 73, 188, 190
Bieda, Christia 64, 118, 119, 144, 182, 185
Biel, Lauren 43, 48, 177
Bielfeldt, Nancy 39, 80, 132, 170, 182
Biestek, Joanna 21, 64, 114, 144, 158, 190
Bilse, Andy 64, 122, 148
Bishop, Brandi 80, 182, 193
Bishop, Tim 64, 156
Bissonnette, Andrew 73
Bizon, Breanne 73, 186
Blair, Dani 64, 132, 138, 152
Blake, Tyson 80, 190
Blakeley, Gabriel 28, 64, 87, 160, 186
Blakeley, Sophia 48, 90,170
Blanchard, Ryan 64, 173, 181
Bland, Nikki 80, 158, 174
Blaze, Mr. Mike 113, 143
Blue, Amy 118
Blumberg, Martin 73, 173, 182
Bobeck, Stephanie 48, 227, 230, 232
Bochnowski, Jim 2, 80, 176, 177, 182, 190, 193
Boeckman, Mark 64, 156
Boeckman, Melissa 48, 105, 177, 182, 186
Boender, Jacob 45, 48
Bogs, Robert 80
Bohling, Brittany 18, 73, 74, 162, 164
Bohney, Matthew 64
Bokowy, Bryan 80, 148
Bookwood, Kyle 64
Borgo, Anna 48, 101, 173, 185
Borgo, Daniel 64
Boswell, Zak 15, 73, 120, 146, 148
Bothwell, Dustin 80, 134, 135, 137
Bowers, Ryan 80
Bowling Club 30
Boyan, Ashley 64, 111, 132, 178
Boyer, Doug 73, 171, 174, 185
Boys' Basketball 4, 11, 134
Boys' Cross Country 116
Boys' Golf 156
Boys' Soccer 126
Boys' Swimming 142
Boys' Tennis 130



**Dennis C. Bielfeldt**
Senior Vice President - Investments
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Flipping through the files, juniors Nancy Bielfeldt and Molly Hanson work at **Wachovia Securities**, the area's premier choice for financial advice.


## senior salute

### stephanie bobeck

Congratulations,
Stephanie Nichole Bobeck

Now it's on to fame and fortune !

Best of luck.

Love,
Dad, Tracy, Adam,
Josh, Joey and Jacob

Boys' Track 160
Bozovic, Diana 48, 104
Bradish, Sarah 80
Bradley, Emily 2, 73, 173, 181, 193
Brajak, Stephenie 12, 73, 132, 136, 162
Brakulis, Jessica 16, 73, 144, 145
Brandon, Kimberly 64
Brazel, Kristen 44, 80
Breaks 110
Brechner, Mr. Larry 33, 88, 181, 193
Brian, Ashley 73
Bridgman, Andrew 34, 35, 80, 130, 173, 181, 190, 193
Bridgman, Joe 64, 122, 136
Broelmann, Dawn 48
Brokop, Beau 73
Brown, Ashley 73, 164, 165
Brown, Mr. Lynn M. 200
Brown, Katie 64, 144
Brown, Lucy 73
Brown, Mr. Aaron 117, 160
Brown, Sara 64, 144
Bruhn, Kurtis 64
Bryant, Kayla 64
Buck, Mrs. Donna 88
Budilovsky, Dan 64, 146, 181
Budzik, George 80
Bug-a-Boo 10
Bugajski, Lauren 43, 80
Bularzik, Kirstin 6, 64, 170, 181, 182
Bulut, Mr. Dawn 88
Bumakowsk, John 181
Burchfield, Nate 48, 134, 135, 137, 240
Burchfield, Nick 64, 122, 136
Burdeau, Aubrey 9, 15, 40, 42, 48, 53, 164, 181
Burdeau, Grant 13, 73, 126, 199
Burek, Tom 76, 80, 160
Burford, Melissa 73
Burke, Christina 80
Burke, Ryan 64, 74, 106
Burnstein, Sarah 73, 177
Burr, Mr. Matthew 88
Bushwackers 222
Byttow, Jason 48

**Chicago** took home the Oscar for Best Picture

Cacich, Niki 73, 173, 181, 190
Caco, David 48
Caddick, Jon 80, 120, 148
Caddick, Josh 80, 95, 120, 148
Calabrese, Tony 40, 49, 61, 120, 122
Calumet Abrasives 218
Cameron, Aaron 42, 49, 148
Camp, John 73
Campbell, Thomas 64
Campos, Laura 73
Campos, Marnan 73, 158, 178, 182, 185, 188, 190
Candiano, Jenna 73, 111
Capizzani, Nick 18, 73
Cardiology Associates of Northwest Indiana 204
Carlberg, Seth 73
Carle, Lydia 17, 49, 129, 170, 173, 178, 186, 205
Carlos, Chris 49, 181, 182, 185, 188, 190, 193, 207
Carlson, Adam 73, 126
Carlson, Allyce 30, 64, 129, 197
Carlson, Ashley 73, 129, 177, 186, 188
Carmelite Fathers Monastery and Shrine 217
Carr, Jason 64
Carraher, Brian 80, 174
Carrasco, Ashley 64
Casas, Armando 64, 185, 186, 188
Caselton, Rachel 25, 78, 80, 177
Castaneda, Alexandra 80
Castillo, Neisy 80
Castor, Nicole 73, 83, 99, 162, 190
CEC, Freshman 174
CEC, Junior 12, 174, 181, 183
CEC, Sophomore 174, 180
CEC, Senior 174
Celozzi, Mike 78, 80
Center for Visual and Performing Arts 229
Center Bank 213
Cermak, John 199
Chambers, Anne 64
Chan, Philip 73, 130, 170, 174
Chapman, Christen 73
Chapman, Korina 49
Chatterjee, Rohini 64, 158, 170, 190, 193
Chaubal, Chetan 22, 41, 67, 73, 95, 130, 175, 179, 182, 185, 190, 193, 238
Cheek, Aaron 49, 127
Cheek, Bryan 40, 49, 87, 127
Cheek, Michael 73
Cheerleading 164
Chelgren, Allison 73, 132
Chelich, Mr. Chuck 143, 144
Chemerinsky, Ashley 80, 177, 183
Chen, David 25, 73, 130, 170
Chen, Jason 73
Cheng, Alex 17, 49, 78, 105, 112, 117, 170, 182, 185, 186
Cherrier, Lauren 80, 96, 129, 158, 178, 181, 185
Choi, Euna 80, 96, 170, 176, 177, 178
Chovanec, Bryan 25, 64, 143
Christopher, Gina 73, 162
Chynoweth, Brandon 64, 126, 170, 178, 188
Cigler, Rich 73, 120
Cirafesi, Wally 80, 120, 121
Ciric, Pete 10, 22, 80, 106, 120
Cisneros, Antonio 64, 190
Citizens Financial Services 219
Ciupa, Elizabeth 73
Clark, Emily 64, 129, 162, 173, 186
Clark, Kara 5, 80, 162, 164, 165, 186, 188
Clark, Mr. Brian 88, 91, 120, 146
Class Executive Council, Junior 12, 174, 181, 183
Class Executive Council, Senior 174
Class Executive Council, Sophomore 174, 180
Class Executive Council, Freshman 174
Clippert, Natalie 49, 177, 178, 179, 181, 182, 186, 188
Clippert, Trevor 73, 120, 146
Cloister in the Woods 212
Closing 238
Coduti, Lee 24
Coduti, Marica 49, 178, 182
Coduti, Matt 38, 73, 146
Cohen, Dan 49, 177
Coil, Mr. Mike 106, 138, 152
Colias, Mr. Jim 146, 147
Collins, Robbie 49, 97, 108, 116, 117, 160, 170, 174, 182, 185
Commander 222
Compton, Evan 64, 186
Conger, Jessica 19, 64, 190
Conley, Jen 40, 64, 129, 174, 190
Contos, Louis 80
Cook, Ashley 64, 144, 188, 190
Cook, Jamie 80
Cooke, Mrs. Jill 185
Cooper, Ashley 63
Cosme, Nick 120, 121, 122
Cosovic, Alex 64, 186
Coulis, Andrea 41, 64, 164, 173, 186, 190
Coulis, Stephanie 5, 80, 89, 112, 129, 158, 178
Coulis, Steve 19, 50, 170, 178, 181, 182, 185
Couture Club 6, 177, 239
Cowgill, Paul 19, 80, 130, 173, 239
Cox, Danna 50
Coyle, Doug 50, 51, 170, 177, 185
Coyne, Megan 15, 50, 170
Craig, Mr. Robert I. 212
Crary, Allison 50, 111, 172, 185, 186, 188, 192, 193
Crary, Melissa 64, 69, 166, 167
Creagh, Ted 50
Creative Writing 101
Creativity 172
*Crier* 177, 182, 239
Crouch, Terry 50, 185
Cuban, Jim 50, 120, 196
Cuevas, Laura 50, 186
Culberg, Gabe 15, 38, 50, 130, 131, 170, 173, 182, 186, 193
Culic, Niko 66, 110, 126, 160
Culp, Matthew 80
Culp, Natalie 66, 103
Cummins, Corrie 73
Curme, Mr. Bruce 51
Curran, Greg 80, 130
Curtis, Suzanne 29, 80
Cusick, Brianne 80

**Dixie Chicks** took the heat for criticizing the Iraqi invasion

Dairy Belle 218
Dal Corobbo, Justin 22, 33, 80, 173, 181, 190, 193
Dalal, Janushi 3, 50, 174, 192
Damjanovich, Ashley 80, 144
Dance Team 166
Dances 40
Daniel, Erik 80
Daniels, Katie 80, 105, 128, 129, 185
Dasgupta, Arnab 50, 171, 185
Dating vs. Group 24
Daugherty, Tim 50, 120, 185
Dave's Camera Mart 229
Davidson, Mr. Jim 124, 125, 138
Davis, Lauren 73, 166
Davis, Mr. Gary 88
Davis, Reesie 80, 177
Davis, Shannen 73
De Armond, Jeff 15, 73
De Cero, Kaitlin 80, 138, 139, 178
De Giulio, T.J. 80, 127
Deal, Chloe 66
Debbie's 203, 225
DeBoer, Ben 66, 173
DeBold, Allison 66
DeBold, Alyssa 3, 73
DECA 177, 183, 184
Deidigha, Abigail 66
Deidigha, Samuel 80
Dejnowski, Arielle 66, 190
Del Rio, Adam 50, 120, 121, 122, 123, 134, 137, 148
Del Rio, Addison 80, 144, 145
Del Rio, Taylor 66, 136
Dell'Aquila, Todd 80, 174, 183, 186
DeLoera, Aly 66, 164
DeLuna, Gabi 15, 40, 50, 177
DeMars, Chris 73
DeMars, Keith 50, 143
Demkowicz, Lisa 50, 170, 173, 185
Depa, Mike 50
DeRolf, Amie 50
DeRolf, Matt 73, 137, 148
Desai, Mrs. Kalyani 210
Developing Interest 174
DeVries, Ashley 73, 103, 119, 144, 162, 174
Dickens, Brock 66, 146
Diekelmann, Emily 73, 177, 178, 181
Diekelmann, Melissa 50, 182, 188, 201
Dillner, Ryan 73, 120
Dillon, Jason 45, 82, 178
Diombala, Amanda 82, 129, 138
Diombala, Mrs. Carrie 88
Djuric, Marko 18, 71, 73
Dobrinich, Sara 20, 3, 40, 82, 164, 172, 174, 177, 181, 187, 193
Doesburg, Andy 50, 146, 199
Doherty, Michael 120
Doherty, Mr. John 120, 137, 213
Doherty, Patrick 120
Domasica, Matt 32, 33, 50, 177, 181, 183, 193
Domenico, Chrissy 73, 129, 152
Don Powers Agency 229
Donnowitz, Matt 66, 148
Dooley, Kim 66, 144, 166, 167, 190, 238
Dortch, Alynia 66, 144
Drapac, Kim 50
Drees, Ryan 74, 173, 181
Dristas, Mrs. Therese 88
Drobac, Ashley 23, 28, 74, 181
Drogolewicz, Pete 74
Drosos, Brennan 74
Drosos, Lauren 66, 164
Drudge, Dan 66, 143
Drudge, Kristie 82
Dubish, Jennifer 74
Dudzik, Ashley 74, 99, 132
Dukich, Natalie 50
Dumakowski, John 82, 186, 188, 240
Dunham, Brad 17, 74, 193
Dunn, Shaun 50
Duray, Kristine 22, 50, 173, 193, 213
Durgin, Bill 69, 82
Durkin, Mrs. Sue 88, 89
Durray, Kristine 55
Dwars, Joe 74, 120
Dwars, Tom 50, 130, 177
Dybel, Stephanie 82, 170, 177, 186
Dytrych, Karly 69, 74

**Eminem** crossed over to the silver screen with *8 Mile*

Economou, Esther 50, 170, 181
Economou, James 66, 181
Edens, Jeff 50
Edington, Mr. John 104
Edwardo's 228
Egnatz, Nicholas 82
Ehlin, Kenneth 199
Eismin, Elliot 75
Eldert, Elise 14, 72, 82, 98, 112, 144, 185
Elek, Rade 75
Elias, Brad 3, 75
Ellingsen, Lindsey 34, 82, 177, 181, 190, 193
Ellis, David 50, 180, 182, 186, 190, 192, 193, 207
Ellis, Teo 181
Ellison, Jordan 82, 221
Elman, Jacob 82
Elman, Jacquelyne 66
Elsalayneh, Ameer 66
Embrey, Aaron 66
Engle, Mrs. Christina 89
Enright, Nicole 75, 138, 152
Ensemble, Mixed 177
Ensemble, Women's 177
Erndl, Jake 66, 148
Essentials 98
Estrada, Dave 82, 146, 147
Evans, Billy 82, 103, 177
Evans, Mark 75, 181
Everette, Mark 7, 11, 75, 160
Excel Edge 196

Congress renamed **french fries** for the sake of **freedom** after lack of support

Fabert, Zack 82, 178
Faculty 88, 90, 92
Fandl, Steve 51, 120
Farkas, Aren 66
Farooq, Farha 66
Farooq, Reem 66
Fattore, Elizabeth 51
Feingold, Julie 41, 66, 144, 145
Fekete, Mr. John 129
Feldman, Alex 13, 51, 105, 175, 186, 188
Felgenhauer, Grant 66, 126, 143, 160
Fell, Stephen 82
Fernandez, Kelley 82, 94, 124, 125, 193
Fernandez-De-Cordoba, Rodrigo 66, 130
Fields, Mr. Carl 89
First Aid 114
Fisher, Jon 15, 75, 120, 160, 190
Fitzgerald, Ivan 51, 240
Flahaven, Jared 7, 75, 126
Flick, Justin 143
Floczak, Mrs. Judith 92
Florek, Ken 7, 66, 122, 160
Florence, Mrs. Carol 89
Flores, Bryan 82
Flores, Jenna 82
Football 120
Fortner, Mr. Don 89, 132
Foulkes, Michael 66
Fox, Brent 82, 126
Frank, Kelly 66, 111
Frank, Stacy 51, 174, 177, 203, 225
Frank, Stephanie 75, 185
Franklin, Mr. Dave 17
Franklin, Robert 82
Fray, Kelly 75, 162, 164
French Club 178
Freshman Class 64-70
Friedman, Mike 12, 82, 170, 174, 177, 179, 188, 193
Friend, Mr. John 92
Frigo, Sara 51, 53, 181
Fritzsche, Mrs. Debbie 89
Frozen Yogurt Express 229
Fuentes, Danielle 162
Funston, Jon 75, 127
Furticella, Jeff 52, 89, 175, 185, 188, 209

**My Big Fat Greek Wedding** turned into a surprise blockbuster hit

Gaik, Jeff 75, 143
Gajda, Ashley 52, 170, 172, 173, 186, 190, 220
Gajewski, Joe 66, 99
Gallagher, Tony 7, 31, 41, 82, 143
Gandhi, Sheiphali 14, 82, 170, 176, 188, 190, 192
Gandolfi, Mr. Al 2, 89, 91, 92
Garcia, Amanda 66, 144, 190
Garcia, Steve 13, 52
Gaskey, Lauren 66, 132
Gauthier, Nikki 52
Gavin, Katie 52
Gbagi, Oker 144
Geberin, Morgan 75, 101, 105, 166, 186, 190
Gelarden, Mr. Dan 146
Gendlin, Maya 66, 144
German Club 170, 181

Gershman, Ilissa 12, 66, 166
Ghezzi, Gary 40, 42, 52
Ghezzi, Jono 66
Giannakis, Nick 52, 127, 136, 137
Gibbons, Mrs. Barb 89
Gier, Greg 41, 75, 115, 146, 160
Gifford, Matt 34, 66, 181, 190
Gikas, Alex 82
Gilbert, Christie 40, 52, 210
Gill, Rachel 82, 95, 144, 170
Gillund, Danielle 5, 82, 144, 182
Giovanni's 208
Girls' Cross Country 118
Girls' Golf 124
Girls' Soccer 95, 128
Girls' Swimming 4, 144
Girot, Jonathan 82
Given, Andrew 52
Glasen, Justin 52
Glasen, Zackery 66
Gleason, Kristen 52
Gluek, Jennifer 52
Gogolyn, Joe 52, 177
Golden Palace 207
Golembo, Mike 95
Golfis, Sam 10, 75
Gomez, Christopher 82
Gonzales, Jimmy 52, 185
Gonzalez, Carmelo 66
Gonzalez, Celia 52, 158, 201
Gonzalez, Jonathan 75
Goodlander, Daniel 66
Goodwin, Scott 66, 67, 71, 106, 186
Gopalan, Elii 75
Gordon, Mr. Mike 89, 174, 188, 240
Gorman, Jessica 75, 105, 217
Gorman, Melissa 52
Gorman, Steve 66, 193
Gornal, Mariann 75
Gornal, Matt 52, 148
Gorski, Kristin 82
Gosciej, Rachel 75, 170, 182, 193
Gott, Jason 20, 75, 130, 190
Grabarczyk, Sarah 12, 66, 102, 173, 178
Graczyk, Mike 66, 170, 173, 182
Grall, Clint 75
Grantner, Tom 75, 120
Graves, Andrew 26, 75, 146
Graves, Mr. Jeff 51, 88, 89
Gray, Scott 82, 130, 173, 217
Grdina, Genevieve 32, 33, 35, 75, 96, 178, 181, 186, 188, 190, 193
Grdina, Madeline 66, 125, 170, 181, 190
Great Harvest Bread Company 217
Green, Amanda 75, 99
Greenya, Corey 52, 127, 146
Greger, Nicole 25, 52
Gregson, Sara 82, 178, 186
Group Work 106
Grow, A.J. 52, 63
Grow, Carlyn 82, 144
Grunewald, Adam 75, 126, 137, 148
Grunewald, Dan 75, 111, 127, 137
Grunewald, James 82
Grunewald, Jason 120, 122, 135, 137
Guanzon, Christina 82, 166, 167, 178
Guidotti, Lauren 75
Gulotta, Justin 18, 52, 127, 238
Gupta, Manini 75, 105, 166, 169, 170, 182, 190, 191
Gupta, Sonal 52, 59, 182, 190
Gupta, Soumya 66, 162, 188, 190
Guthrie, Brogan 75, 129, 193
Guthrie, Meghan 23, 66, 129, 190

Iraqis tore down statues of former leader Saddam Hussein

Haas, Mrs. Catherine 217
Habib, Tamara 124
Hack, Ashley 66, 178
Hackett, Mr. Mike 11, 89, 135, 137
Haddad, Robert 66
Hajduk, Jessica 66
Hamblin, Lauren 14, 52, 166, 167, 174, 182
Hamilton, Katie 66, 132, 138, 139
Hammermeister, Amy 66
Hammond Clinic 222
Hammonds, Marcus 75, 137
Han, Mr. Soo 185
Hanas, Allison 82, 173, 177, 190
Hanas, Kate 15, 44, 52, 177, 186
Haneman, Heather 75, 119, 162
Hannigan, Mark 82, 181
Hanrahan, Jill 82, 132, 138, 170
Hanrahan, Sheree 82
Hansel, Chris 82
Hansen, Elaine 52
Hansen, Emily 52
Hansen, John 12, 72, 75
Hansen, Mrs. Kay 89
Hansen, Pat 107
Hansen, Robert 66
Hanson, Molly 33, 35, 39, 45, 82, 182, 190, 193
Hansson, Chris 52, 115, 156
Harker, Joe 75
Harker, Meg 52
Harker, Michael 66
Harrigan, Brian 66, 170
Harrington, Lauren 82
Harris, Alexa 66, 166, 190, 193
Harris, Jeff 15, 52, 127, 182, 185
Harris, Kenny 134
Harris, Natalie 52
Hart, Mike 66, 122, 146
Harvey, Andrew 15, 66
Harvey, Katie 1, 75, 182, 190
Harvey, Sara 15, 82, 170, 181, 182, 193
Hasse, Kim 66, 164
Hassellof, Allison 75, 177, 178, 181, 186, 190
Hassles 182
Hastings, Mrs. Nancy 18, 88, 89, 177, 185, 188
Hathaway, Alyssa 52, 115, 168, 173
Hauflaire, Drew 82, 143
Haussman, Miss Kelly 89
Hauter, Valerie 53
Hautzinger, Mr. Larry 90, 143
Haverstock, Mr. Art 90
Hawkins, Allison 82
Hawkins, Kim 66, 158, 178, 185
Hawryszkow, Caitlin 53, 168, 177, 182
Hawryszkow, Mike 1, 44, 75, 148
Hayes, Amy 15, 53, 164, 165, 174, 182, 188, 202, 224
Hayes, Brian 82, 120, 123, 148
Hayes, Collin 75
Hayes, Jacqui 82, 170, 186, 188
Hayes, Kara 164
Haynes, Mrs. Linda 3, 173
Heaney, Amy 75, 97
Heaney, Mary 42, 53, 152
Heart to Heart 223
Hegde, Satya 66, 185
Heinrich, Rachel 66
Heintz, Matthew 75
Helfen, Mrs. Kim 53, 120, 122, 123, 182
Helping Others 188
Hendron, Shane 53, 146
Hendron, Shawn 75, 146
Heneghan, Andrew 53
Hennes, Jimmy 75, 170, 173, 181
Herbeck, Krissy 82, 98, 177
Hernandez, Chris 75
Hernandez, Claudia 66
Hernandez, Justin 75, 185
Hernandez, Keith 66
Hernandez, Lindy 66, 190
Hernandez, Marty 75
Herr, Chris 53, 120, 122, 146, 147, 160
Herr, John 82, 143, 181
Herrin, Beth 53, 55, 178, 185, 188
Hershberger, Megan 82, 166, 167
Higgins, Megan 32, 33, 53
Higgins, Patrick 66
Highland Medical Center 214
Hinkleman, Liz 16, 82, 104, 144, 145, 238
Hirsch, Adam 75
Hlista, Bryce 82, 126
Hmurovic, Danny 66, 103
Hmurovic, Jillian 51, 53, 110, 174, 177, 178, 182, 190, 192, 208
Hnatusko, Irena 19, 75, 170, 178, 182
Hoban, Emily 53
Hoffman, Amy 75
Hoffman, Bobby 54, 177
Hoffman, Kevin 75, 126, 143
Hoffman, Stephanie 66, 129, 138
Hoffmann, Tracey 54
Hofstra, Jim 54
Hofstra, Tony 54
Holajter, Chad 82, 130, 156
Holajter, Lindsay 210
Holloway, Elyse 66, 170, 173
Holloway, Ian 54, 103, 170, 177, 181, 182, 186, 201, 203, 225, 238
Holobowski, Nate 82, 148, 178
Holobowski, Zach 24, 54, 105, 173, 178, 182, 185, 194, 209, 220
Homans, Abby 16, 66, 144
Homecoming 12-15
Homer, Ms. Lisa 90, 174
Hopkins, Taylor 75, 103, 120
Horowitz, Teddy 75, 103, 120
Hostetter, Jen 24, 54, 138, 139
Hou, Jia 31, 72, 82, 130, 160, 170, 193
Howarth, Katie 82, 129
Hoyle, Randy 54
Hruska, Laura 75, 181
Hruskocy, Adam 75, 137
Hubbard, Jimi 66
Hubbard, Michael 75
Huebner, Hannah 66, 170
Huffman, Nicole 82
Huggy, Kaylen 75, 173, 181, 182, 185
Hughes, Mike 35, 66, 146, 173, 174, 182, 187, 190
Humane Society 219
Hunt, Joe 29, 75
Hunter, Blake 75, 120
Hus, Steve 30, 75, 171, 174, 185

ICCIE provides five step method to improve critical thinking

Illiana Surgery and Medical Center 211
In School Fun 18
Insurriaga, Ari 40, 54, 126, 127
Interests 108
Ispas, Holly 75, 152

Norah Jones went five-for-five at the Grammy's

Jamicich, Jennie 67, 118, 119, 138, 162
Jamicich, John 54, 99, 105, 134, 135, 137
Jamison, Mr. Louis 212
Jamrock, James 82
Janevski, Milena 67, 144
Jania, Carolyn 82, 174, 177, 178, 181, 186, 193
Jankovic, Miljan 82
Jayjack, Andrew 54
Jedrzejczak, Casey 27, 67, 130
Jedrzejczak, Jayme 82, 158, 170
Jercha, Abbie 67, 190
Jernigan, Amber 54, 173, 177, 178, 186
Jillson, Matt 82, 130, 137, 148
John Hodson Coins 208
John's Family Restaurant & Pizzeria 212
Johnson, Amie 67, 129
Johnson, Chad 67
Johnson, Christine 82, 186
Johnson, David 45, 82, 177, 182, 190, 193
Johnson, Tim 75, 146
Jones, Emily E. 188, 193, 205
Jones, Emily L. 12, 82
Jones, Justine 75
Jones, Lauren 54, 205
Jones, Michelle 75, 158, 184, 190
Jones, Mike 67, 122, 148
Jones, Tammy 24, 54, 152
Jordan, Danielle 82, 177
Jorgensen, Kurt 67, 199
Joseph, Bryan 40, 67, 126
Joseph, Erin 75, 162
Joshi, Darshak 54, 168, 173, 181, 186, 190
Joshi, Shreyas 38, 82, 130, 131, 193
Jozwiak, Jason 54
Jukebox Billiards 208
Juniors 80-86
Jurich, Melissa 75, 129
Jurkash, Tony 67, 122
Just Who Do You Think You Are? 8

When the light turned on, residents pulled over for a hot Krispy Kreme

Kaczka, Jimmy 54
Kaiser, Diana 75
Kalemba, Adam 82, 186
Kalina, Mike 54, 120, 148, 182
Kallen, Joshua 67
Kalwasinski, Mr. Matt 88, 90, 91
Kammer, Mrs. Dessie 90
Kansal, Nidhi 3, 54, 182, 217
Karanikic, Nila 12
Karr, Mr. Bill 158
Kasenga, Joe 67, 171, 174
Kasenga, Matthew 82
Kathrotiya, Puja 54, 177, 178, 181, 185, 186
Katsepas, Dimitri 67, 146
Kaufman, Adam 82, 156, 173, 177, 186, 188
Keil, Hana 75, 129
Keil, Mr. Marty 148
Keilman, Mr. Larry 90
Kelley, Mrs. Deb 90
Kelly, Jeremy 147
Kelly, Kersten 20, 82, 129, 185
Kendall, Kristen 19, 75, 173, 174, 181, 193
Kent, Mr. Lewis 177
Kenzel, Daniel 67
Kerner, Kate 23, 83
Kerzner, Melissa 83, 181
Kesely, Kristina 83, 173, 177, 178, 181, 193, 238
Keshvani, Payal 54, 97, 185, 188, 190, 193
Kevin, Rachel 54, 57, 170, 173, 181, 182
Kiekenapp, Julie 11, 83, 112, 173, 182, 189, 193
Kilibarda, Amanda 67, 166
Kilibarda, Lea 75, 101, 166, 190
King, Mr. Jack 91, 92
Kitchell, Andrew 7, 67, 130, 160
Klebs, Kara 83
Kmiec, Josh 54
Knesek, Jim 83, 160, 173, 191
Knezevich, Ashley 67
Kocel, Matt 54
Kocsis, Kevin 75
Koessler, Andrew 75
Kolderup, Casey 51, 54, 57, 185
Kompare, Phil 83, 146,160
Konopasek, Julia 83, 118, 119, 162, 174, 186
Korda, Sam 83, 132, 133, 162
Korem, Kaitlin 75, 152
Korey, Jamie 54
Koscielski, Phil 54
Koselke, Erica 45, 77
Kosiba, Megan 174
Kouris, Mrs. Renee 89, 90, 240
Kovacevich, Kristina 26, 67, 169, 171, 185, 190
Kovach, Jessica 54, 164, 202, 224
Kovacich, Jeff 68, 181
Kozlowski, Brooke 68, 101, 164
Kozlowski, Chris 83, 186
Kozlowski, Darcie 43, 67, 83, 162, 174, 185
Kozlowski, Mr. Ed 219
Kozlowski, Kara 54, 170, 174, 186
Krasic, Stefanie 27, 68, 129
Kretz, Anna 54, 99, 182
Kretz, Vanessa 68, 144, 162, 178
Krismanick, Lisa 83, 158, 170, 185, 218
Krolak, Laura 55
Krolak, Stephen 77
Kubacki, Peter 55
Kubacki, Phil 55
Kuhn, Brian 83
Kunka, Pat 83, 120
Kunz, Jake 68, 148, 177
Kuo, Connie 55, 103, 170, 180, 184, 185, 186, 193
Kupski, Katrina 83, 173
Kurz, Gregory 77
Kutansky, Nikola 77
Kutas, Jon 55, 63, 177, 181, 182, 189
Kutlik, Kyle 55
Kwateng, Prince 43, 77, 120

Lord of the Rings transformed students into Frodo fans

L & M Jewelers 216
Lackey, Andrea 83
Ladd, Ms. Becky 88, 90
LaFond, Jennifer 56
Lakich, Mirjana 56, 158, 181, 182, 186, 188
LaMagdeleine, Eric 77, 178
Lancelot Body Piercing 215
Landowski, Katie 56, 181, 182, 186, 188, 193
Landowski, Linda 77, 181, 188, 190

Langbehn, Lyndsay 77, 177, 178, 181, 182, 190
Lanman, Sarah-Anne 77, 178, 181
Largus, Christina 83, 164
Largus, Mr. Tom 120
Larson, Robbie 83, 160
Laudermilk, Kate 84, 174, 181, 186, 188
Lautz, Laura 74, 84, 174, 178, 181, 186
Lawrence, Emily 84, 188
Laymon, Sarah 77, 177, 184
Lazauskas, Vita 56, 177, 182, 185
Leahy, Megan 56, 198
Leal, Amanda 68
Leary, Will 68, 143
Leary's 208
LeBeau, Michael 68
Lebo, Alex 68, 122
Lee, Andrew 19, 84, 130, 170, 213
Lee, Denny 77, 130, 170, 188, 190, 192
Lee, Jeffrey 68
Lee, Mike 56, 120, 130
Lee, Sharon 68, 152
Lee, Mrs. Suzanne Y. 218
Lehnerer, Mr. Marc 88, 90
Leitelt, Mary 55, 56, 128, 129
Leitelt, Paul 77, 126, 127
Lemon, Mrs. Andrea 90
Lemon, Mrs. Linda 90
Lemus, Daniel 68
Leopold, Maureen 84, 112
Lerner, Adam 68, 146
Leser, Mr. Pat 158
Leslie, Melissa 56, 166, 202, 224
Leslie, Sondra 77, 177, 184
Leto, Sean 77
Levin, Josh 56, 102, 174, 178, 182, 186, 188
Lewellyn, Angie 56, 177
Lewis, Billy 14, 84, 116, 117, 160, 170, 174, 188, 193
Lewis, Brittany 68, 162, 164, 178
Lewis, Dan 77, 146, 147, 213
Lewis, Matt 1, 51, 56, 142, 143
Lewis, Mr. Kent 12, 101
Libak, Justin 67, 84, 199
Linnear, David 68
Lipton, Lauren 68, 129, 138, 162
Lissy, Katie 68, 132, 158
Liszka, Sarah 77, 166, 173, 174, 180, 186, 190
Loden, Todd 77, 170, 173, 177, 190
Lodge, Daniel 68, 143
Logan, Thea 26, 84, 177, 178
Lopez, Eli 18, 77
Lopez, Ian 77
Lopez, Mr. Steve 90, 130, 131, 160
Lorenz, Keith 77, 174
Los, Patrick 77, 182
Lotak, Taryn 77, 129, 158
Lowe, Mike 84, 127
Lucas, Jay 77, 126
Lucatero, Elisa 84, 209
Lukic, Alexsandar 56
Lukomski, David 84
Lukoshus, Tim 68, 122, 136, 148
Luksich, Miss Jennifer 173, 191
Luptak, Jeff 56
Lynn, Mrs. Shumacher 170

**Matrix: Reloaded** thrilled fans with revolutionary visual effects

Macak, Mrs. Patricia 90
Macak, Timothy 84
Mack, Nathan 56, 220
Madsen, Mrs. Sandra 90, 106
Mahayter, Paul 16, 77, 148
Malik's Family Restaurant 215
Malinski, Ms. Paula 91
Mallinger, David 170
Maloney, Chris 77, 96, 130, 173, 177, 182
Mambourg, Courtney 5, 56, 93, 170, 185, 186
Mambourg, Lindsay 12, 84, 188
Manchak, Natalie 68, 190
Manderino, Joey 15, 26, 33, 56, 177, 180, 181, 188, 190, 193
Mandhana, Roli 68, 170, 173, 182, 190
Mann, Ben 77, 182
Manoski, Monica 68, 132, 138, 162, 190
Manuel, Daniel 68
Manuel, James 84, 181
Marcus Jewelers 223
Marinakos, Bill 77, 126
Marinier, Jeff 68, 137, 193
Markovich, Kelly 25, 56, 61, 114, 178, 185, 188
Markovich, Kim 77, 107, 162, 182
Marschak, Brittany 56
Marsh, Mr. Leroy 91, 92, 120, 121
Mart-Webb, Mrs. Alyce 91, 177, 178
Martin, Josh 84, 135, 137, 174
Martinez, Kyle 20, 56, 113, 148, 202, 224, 238
Maruszczak, Aimee 68, 106, 164
Maruszczak, Jennifer 56
Mashura, Mike 23, 77, 143
Massie, Ben 56, 197, 199
Matyasovich, Jason 68
Matz, Matthew 41, 68, 181
Maul, Erich 68, 122, 146, 160
May We Help You? 194
Mayer, Brian 56, 177
Mayer, Jason 84
Mayfield, James 84, 186
Mc Carthy, Michael 84
Mc Cullough, Jeffrey 84
Mc Guan, Erin 25, 43, 84, 173
McCall, Mr. Rob 90, 91, 120, 162
McCarthy, Sami 68, 132
McCreight, Jennifer 68, 113, 124, 125, 172, 173
McCulloch, Clare 68
McCullough, Mike 7, 56, 103, 177
McFadden, Jeremy 199
McIntyre, Michelle 28, 84, 170, 181
McIntyre, Mike 68, 100
McNabney, Mr. Jim 91, 115
McNicholas, Mike 68, 156, 186
McShane, Anne 77, 129
McWilliams, David 68, 122, 160, 185
McWilliams, Kelly 41, 78, 84, 162, 173, 177, 182, 190
Meacham, Jon 56, 59, 120, 121
Mecha, Madonna 84
Medakovic, Milan 56
Medakovic, Milena 12, 84
Medellin, Raechelle 56, 109, 124, 125, 170, 181, 185, 186, 190, 193, 214
Medellin, Richelle 56, 124, 125, 170, 182, 185, 186, 190, 193, 214
Medina, Ferdinand 68, 122, 148
Medina, Rachel 4, 84, 170, 177, 182, 185
Medynsky, Marko 56, 174, 177, 185, 193
Meggers, Allison 68
Mehok, Sherri 84
Meier, Britney 84, 112
Meier, Mrs. Eileen 88, 91, 181
Meinrich, Rachel 173
Menchaca, Alphie 77, 78
Mendoza, Fred 91
Mendoza, Mrs. Kristie 88, 113, 174
Mercier, Dominique 56, 105, 170, 173, 177, 178, 198
Merkell, Leah 56
Merle Norman 207
Meyers, Brian 68, 122
Michalski, Jenny 68, 144, 188
Michel, Bryan 84
Mielnicki, Karol 57
Mihalo, Chris 84, 174
Mihich, John 68, 173, 218
Mihich, Rachel 84, 182, 185, 193
Mikels, Kate 84, 144, 178
Mikler, Lauren 40, 57, 170, 178, 185, 186, 193
Mikolajczyk, Mr. Mike 122, 136, 148
Milbrath, Ben 68
Mileusnich, Mara 109
Miller, Elise 77, 105, 182, 191, 193
Miller, Kelly 57, 61
Miller, Lindsay 84
Miller, Mr. Chris 91
Miller, Ryan 57, 156, 170, 182, 185, 190
Millies, Anna 68
Millies, Steve 77, 142, 143
Miskimins, Deana 67, 68, 181
Miskimins, Michelle 84, 170, 171, 181, 182, 193
Mixed Ensemble 187
Modesto, Mr. Bob 158
Moell, Mr. Steve 38, 63, 88, 89, 91, 98
Moffitt, Andrew 84
Mohammed, Wesam 68
Moin, Sana 57
Molina, Erika 84, 190
Monowski, Monica 43
Montella, Jessica 3, 57, 132
Montella, Kelly 58, 170
Montemayor, Chad 77
Moran, Kristen 77
Moran, Madilyn 84
Moriarty, Dustin 58, 116, 117, 160, 170, 178, 182, 185
Morley, Alex 16, 31, 84
Morley, Maddie 84, 113, 177, 193
Morley, Michael 84
Morning Routines 16
Morrow, Amber 68
Moseley, Sarah 58
Moseley, Timothy 68
Mota, Melissa 58
Mueller, Kristina 58, 164, 165, 201
Muir, Caitlin 58, 177
Munster Food Mart 212
Munster Gyros 229
Munster Theater Company 187
Murillo, Mario 68
Murks, David 84, 173
Murphy, Lee 58, 120, 160, 182
Murphy, Nick 77, 120, 146
Murray, Lisa 58, 128, 129
Murzyn, Krystle 77, 182, 185, 190
Musa, Fareed 68
Musical 36, 37
Myszak, Rachel 77, 152
Myszak, Val 58, 97

**New York** lead the way by banning smoking in public buildings

Najamuddin, Abe 77, 100, 190
Nana, Bhavik 84, 130, 181, 188
Nana, Kavita 77, 170, 188, 190, 191
National Honor Society 182
Navarro, Brett 58
Need for a Car 30
Nellans, Mrs. Paula 92
Nelson, Jenny 55, 58, 111, 176, 178, 182, 186, 188, 197
Nelson, Julie 16, 77, 170, 175, 177, 178, 181, 185, 186, 193
Newcomb, Jeff 58, 117, 185
Newcomb, Mrs. Nancy 91
Newell, Derek 58, 177, 178, 205
Newell, Lindsey 68
Newman, Tom 58, 199
Nicholas, Mrs. Lori 91
Nichols, Richard 58
Niemann, Danielle 65, 68, 144
Nierengarten, Matthew 58
Nizam, Mr. Naveed 132
Noel, Dave 15, 44, 58, 148
Nolan, Kelley 68
Noman, Bhavik 186
Nootens, John 77, 181
Norby, Stephen 68
Novosel, Thomas 84
Nowak, Mike 77, 148
Ntiamoah, Kathy 84, 170, 173, 178, 186
Ntiamoah, Maxwell 3, 58, 160, 177, 181

Nuzzo, Gina 15, 40, 58, 238
Nykiel, Ali 77, 129, 138

**Troops stormed Baghdad as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom**

Oancea, Roddy 84, 170
O'Brien, Kelley 58, 144, 181, 182, 186
Obszanski, Melissa 84, 132, 133, 138, 162
O'Connor, Dr. Michael 2, 92
Ogren, Dan 84
O'Keefe, Shannon 24, 58, 202, 224
Olivotto, Mrs. Kathy 91
Omery, Jawad 58, 146, 185
Omery, Murad 77, 117, 146, 184, 185, 190
Ondo, Chris 67, 77, 130, 170, 185
Opening 1-7
Oprinovich, Ben 58, 130, 131
Orchestra 185, 187, 239
Organization 100
Orzel, Jessica 77, 174
Osborne, Elizabeth 77
Osterman, Angela 68
Ostrowski, Robert 77
Owen, Mrs. Suzanne 91

***Harry Potter 2*** debuted and reignited our childlike imagination

Paarlberg, Andrew 77
Paez, Natalia 29, 84, 170, 175, 177, 178, 186, 188, 190
Pai, Shobha 68, 119, 158, 173, 180, 188, 190, 193
Paliga, David 84, 120
Paliga, Tom 5, 18, 122, 146, 160
Pantazis, Daphne 68
Papaleo, Jeffrey 84
Pappas, Jasmine 68, 181
Pappas, Sara 77, 170, 190
*Paragon* 182, 185, 239
Paramo, Arturo 77
Parikh, Nilay 84
Parker, Amy 58, 138, 139, 152
Parker, Leslie 18, 44, 49, 58, 164, 165, 170, 177, 182, 185, 186, 188, 193
Parra, Nicole 77, 174
Partain, Keith 40, 58
Pasztor, Jillian 58
Pataky, Patrick 77, 190
Patel, Dr. U.H. 219
Patel, Kinnary 84
Patel, Russel 58, 181, 182, 185, 186, 190
Patel, Shyam 58
Patel, Vishal 23, 84
Patterson, Nicole 33, 84, 178, 181
Patton, Alyson 68, 144, 190
Patwari, Ajay 68, 130, 170, 185, 186, 190
Paulson, Ricky 68, 122, 178
Pavisian, Bennis 77, 115
Pavkovich, Alex 17, 67, 68, 129, 190
Pavkovich, David 34, 77, 120, 178, 181, 190
Pavnick, Nicole 58, 221
Payne, Mr. Johnny 137
Peach, Matthew 59
Peach, Nicole 68
Pearman, Katie 68, 72
Pearson, Farris 77
Peciulis, Audra 59
Peck, Alex 68, 122
Penman, Kevin 68, 195
Penman, Lisa 59
Penman, Mike 84, 120, 148
People's Bank 209
Perez, Ashley 59
Perkins, Bryan 68
Perkins, John 84, 120
Perlinski, Ryann 84, 158, 170, 174, 181, 186
Perz, Stephanie 68, 76, 144
Pet Set 223
Petersen, Ross 77, 148
Petersen, Russ 84, 148
Petrone, Joseph 77
Petrone, Julie 84
Petrovic, Dragana 77, 178, 186
Pfeifer, Sarah 59, 132, 133
Pfister, Mr. William 92
Pfister, Ms. Patty 138, 162
Pflum, Miss Val 91, 113, 129, 174, 185, 187
Phaze 1 213
Phelan, Jim 59, 120, 122, 135, 136, 137
Phelan, Kevin 68, 136
Phillips, Dan 33, 84, 87, 173, 181, 193
Phipps, Heather 68, 170, 178, 193
Piatek, Joe 77, 130, 137, 156
Piatek, Tim 60, 130, 131, 156
Pilawski, Alex 60, 134, 137, 182
Pilawski, Alyson 68, 178, 185
Ping Pong Club 6, 185, 187
Pizzuto, Shawn 18, 77, 99, 143
Platt, Brandon 2, 77, 120, 148
Plays 32-35
Pleitner, Aaron 77, 120, 146, 160
Pleitner, Janet 60
Pleitner, Jessica 77, 103
Pleitner, Jon 23, 60, 120, 178, 182
Plummer, Nicole 68
Podkul, Mrs. Jackie 2, 91, 174
Pogach, Amanda 32, 33, 77, 170, 173, 178, 181, 182, 186, 188, 189, 190, 191, 193
Poppa, Corie 84
Popravak, Paige 41, 77, 111, 144, 170, 173, 177, 178, 182, 186, 190, 193
Porkornowski, Steven 199
Porta, Amanda 60, 170, 177, 182, 186
Porte, Elissa 84, 178
Porter, David 77, 120, 146, 186
Potter, Michelle 84, 119, 181, 182, 190

Pottorff, Greg 13, 15, 42, 60, 127, 182
Powley, Tom 84
Pozywio, Alex 199
Prasad, Neerja 77, 97, 170, 179, 189, 190
Prasopoulos, Mr. Jim 12, 126, 127, 137
Premier, Mrs. Pat 92, 112
Price, Kim 68, 129
Project X 179, 186, 188, 189
Prole, Alex 178
Providing Entertainment 186
Pryzbylski, Michael 84, 199
Pucalik, Rachel 77, 181, 188, 221
Pugh, Lindsey 77, 132, 138
Pukoszek, Frank 68, 111
Pulido, Stephanie 68
Puterko, Elizabeth 84, 152
Puterko, Lindsay 60, 138, 170
Puthenveetil, Peter 69, 126
Pycinska, Kathy 84, 111, 185

U.S. captured and punished **Al Queda** leaders

Quasny, Suzy 84, 118, 119, 162
Quick Fixes 112
Quill and Scroll 188

Shows like *Mr. Personality* pushed **reality** television to the extremes

Raddatz, Paul 60
Radmilovic, Gordana 20, 77, 97, 111, 190
Rafacz, Brandon 84
Rajcevic, Danica 78
Rajkovic, Bojan 15, 18, 78, 127
Rak, Anna 21, 78, 114, 182, 190
Rak, Daniel 69, 160
Rakowski, Kara 84
Ramirez, Danielle 60
Ramirez, Joe 60, 106
Ramus, Tom 69, 122
Ranade, Erica 78, 173, 182, 190, 193
Rangel, Stephanie 39, 43, 84, 185, 187
Rao, Suman 78, 185, 186, 193
Raval, Pratik 78
Rawden, Mack 2, 78, 98, 130, 156
Raycroft, Josh 84, 142, 143, 191
Rebesco, Gina 69, 132, 191, 193
Rebesco, Kaitlin 84, 186
Redar, Mrs. Linda 92
Reed, Eric 78
Remec, Megan 85, 128, 129, 138, 139
Renzi, Kristopher 85
Repac, Marijana 85, 158
Repac, Marinko 45, 107, 197
Resler, David 85, 143, 160, 185
Resler, Phil 60, 120
Reuter, Amanda 85, 124, 125, 185
Reuth, Ryan 19, 60, 105
Riccio, Mrs. Jan 92
Rice, Kyle 60
Rich, Jonathan 78
Rick, Mary 111
Ridgley, Mr. Ryan 120
Rietmann, Lisa 16, 53, 60, 144, 145, 162, 174, 185, 238
Rietmann, Nicole 23, 60
Rigo, Lucia 69, 119, 144
Rinderer, Ben 60, 177
Ritchie, Angie 60, 61, 164, 165, 169
Ritter, Dana 10, 69
Rivera, Jacob 69
Rizzo, Mrs. Marilyn 92
Robertson, Claire 85, 100, 181, 184
Rogers, John 69, 130, 169
Rogers, Nicole 85, 182, 193
Rogowski, Jennifer 78
Roman, Mike 60, 220
Roman-Lagunas, Peach 9, 15, 18, 60, 129, 162, 174, 182, 193, 220
Romano, Robert 7, 69, 122, 143
Romic, Branka 78, 186, 188
Romic, Stana 70, 178, 181, 186
Roque, Amanda 70
Roque, Maritza 41, 78, 119
Rosario, Alissa 85, 162, 173, 190
Rosen, Mr. Jeff 148
Rosenblum, David 60
Rothschild, Adam 15, 60, 130
Rothschild, Mr. Dean 226
Roxy's 207
Roy, Tim 40
Rubesha, Brian 78, 120, 146, 160
Rubino, Elizabeth 78
Ruich, Alex 41, 78, 103, 162, 186
Ruiz, Jessica 98
Russell, Mr. David 92
Rutkowski, Scott 70, 83, 122, 137
Ryan, James 78

Students popped open books for **Silent Sustained** Reading

SADD 183, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192
Safety First 105
Sakelaris, Alex 70, 117
Salata, Alana 60, 132, 152, 185
Saltanovitz, Amy 85
Samano, Natalie 78, 132
Samara, Chad 60, 108
Sampias, Katherine 78, 181
Sands, Ann-Marie 7, 60
Santratello's Pizza 210
Santner, Warren 60, 96, 136, 137
Sapyta, Tom 70, 126
Sarber, Dana 20, 86, 125, 193
Sarnecki, Maribeth 60, 170
Sasek, Luke 70
Satisfaction 178
Scheffer, Mrs. Linda 90
Schlesinger, Katie 18, 38, 45, 101, 177, 178
Schmelzer, Jenny 60, 106
Schmidt, Brian 160
Schmidt, Dustin 86, 186
Schmidt, Jeff 86, 168
Schmidt, Nathan 86, 186
Schmiedel, Erin 173
Schmitt, Renee 86, 119
Schneider, Jackie 86, 108, 193
Schneider, Mr. David 92
Schoen, Dr. Joel 224
School Stuff 223
Schoon, Robert 86, 174, 185, 186
Schoop's 207
Schulte, Sara 79, 129
Schumacher, Mrs. Lynn 92
Schutz, Andrew 86, 178, 185, 190
Scrapbook Studio 223
Scully, Patrick 60, 205
Scully, Stephanie 79, 129, 182
Scully, Thomas 216
Sealy, Mike 70, 122, 136, 148
Sefton, Cylas 70
Selent, Chris 79, 160
Selent, Gina 22, 60, 176, 177, 185, 186, 188, 197
Seligman, Amanda 70, 152
Seligman, Samantha 60, 152
Semko, John 60, 199
Senior Class 48-52
Serving the Student Body 190
Serving the Team 192
Shaffer, Leah 86, 166, 167
Shah, Aditya 79, 168
Shah, Amit 61, 178, 185, 186, 190
Shah, Neel 86, 130, 178, 186
Shah, Neema 18, 61, 170, 178, 185
Shah, Sapna 29, 86, 177
Shapiro, Jaime 61, 178, 190, 192, 207
Shapiro, Kate 79
Shapiro, Mr. Jerry I. 222
Shapiro, Phillip 32, 35, 79, 160, 174, 181, 190
Sharma, Shivani 23, 86, 119, 186
Sharp, Andrew 79, 127, 174, 185
Shaw, Kelly 79, 115, 132
Shelton, Nick 70, 126, 160
Sherman, Jessica 61
Sherman, Mrs. Georgia 92
Shideler, Mike 43, 86, 130, 131, 240
Shieh, Tina 79, 170, 185, 190, 193
Shike, Amanda 8, 40, 86, 118, 119, 162
Shike, Mrs. Darlene 119
Shinkan, Mike 81, 86, 126, 156, 178, 193
Shinkan, Mr. Bob 71, 81, 92, 120, 148
Shishkin, Anton 5, 86, 174
Shofner, Kristen 16, 61
Shudick, Rich 85, 86, 96, 130, 170, 173
Sichling, Michael 79
Sicinski, Ray 86, 170, 195
Siddiqui, Salman 143
Siegers, Mrs. Shonna 93
Sikora, Mark 86, 174, 185
Sikora, Paul 15, 26, 61
Simchak, Nicole 86
Simmons, John 86
Simmons, Kelly 79, 115
Simmons, Thomas 79, 120
Simpson, Crystal 61
Sinchak, Jill 61, 138, 139, 182
Sinchak, Kevin 79
Singer, Liam 61
Singh, Harjot 79, 106, 160
Sipes, Chris 86, 173, 182, 184, 193
Siukola, David 70
Sjostrom, Christian 86
Skaggs, Samantha 61, 152
Skalka, Steve 42, 61
Skertich, Joe 42, 62, 120, 122, 177, 198, 238
Skertich, Matt 70, 122, 136, 160
Skibinski, Lauren 86, 109
Skiff, Katie 125
Skills 176
Skinner, AJ 86, 164, 178
Skriobot, Samantha 27, 70
Skrundz, Kristi 62, 105
Slaboski, Kathryn 79
Slagle, Jeffrey 70
Sliwa, Miss Jenny 132
Sloan, Mr. Dirk 162
Smaron, Lindsay 62, 132
Smiljic, Milica 79
Smith, Aaron 79, 130
Smith, Justin 79, 142, 143, 168
Smith, Kevin 70, 199
Smith, Kristi 30, 86, 144
Smith, Krystle 86
Smith, Mr. Mike 92, 93, 238
Smith, Nick 20, 86
Smith, Steve 62, 120, 122
Snedden, Brad 70, 122, 136
Snedden, Jenna 10, 62
Snuckel, David 70, 122
Sobilo, Lisa 70
Sochacki, Steve 86, 199
Soeka, Joe 86, 111
Soeka, Sara 70, 144
Softball 152
Sokol, Mr. Joseph 93
Solis, Jessica 86, 97
Somenzi, Laura 62
Sons, Becky 79, 87, 102
Sopata, Kristin 62
Sopher, Michelle 210
Sophomore CEC 184
Sophomore Class 72, 74, 76, 78
Sopko, Mr. Richard 92
Sopko, Mr. Tim 126, 127, 138
Sopko, Mrs. Donna 129
Southland Sports Center 210
Sowa, Ray 70, 122
Sowinski, Angela 11, 79, 164
Spanish Club 170, 181, 190
Spasoff, Melody 62
Specyal, Jason 70, 160, 185
Spedus, Christopher 79
Speech and Debate Team 190, 192, 193, 239
Spicer, Shawn 70, 136
Spinosa, Tony 10, 86, 120, 121, 148, 178
Spivey, Andrew 86
Spolnik, Mary Ann 70, 132, 152
Spolnik, Sheri 86
Spungen, Daniel 70, 186
Spyrka, Matthew 70, 173, 181, 188, 178
Sretenovic, Ana 72, 86, 197
Srivastava, Sheena 86, 87, 177, 178
Sroka, Helen 62, 185
Sroka, Victoria 70
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 207
Stack, Anthony 79
Stalmack, Jessie 79, 162, 164
Stamos, Amanda 22, 86
Stan, Mrs. Michelle 93
Standley, Kristina 3, 79, 166, 185, 186, 190
Standley, Sarah 70, 182, 188, 190
Stardust Bowl 215
Starewicz, Scott 148
Stariha, Anna 70, 152, 193
Stassin, Chris 7, 70
Steele, Lindsey 86, 119, 162, 174, 188
Steele, Sarah 5, 40, 70, 129
Stefanopoulos, Aleka 70
Stenger, Madelyne 62
Stennis, Ms. Jaime 144
Stephan, Kristina 79
Stereotypes 190
Stevens, Andy 70, 122, 186
Stewart, Brett 62, 116, 117
Stigall, Natalie 34, 86, 144, 170, 177
Stine, Emily 86, 174, 188
Stinnett, Jon 62
Stockle, Sarah 86, 152
Stoffregen, Gina 70, 193
Stoffregen, Mike 14, 51, 62, 177, 178, 181, 182, 185, 186, 192, 193
Stolarz, Nick 70, 137, 174
Stoll, Mrs. Florencia 110, 114
Stone, Nick 62, 101, 130, 177, 197
Stones' Bones 216
Stopper, Maria 86, 166, 167
Stopper, Mr. Corky 93
Stork, Becka 70, 108, 162, 170, 173, 181, 182, 186, 188, 189, 190
Stork, Ben 62, 174, 238
Stout, Erica 79, 99, 152, 186
Strain, David 70, 178
Strain, Mike 18, 86, 114
Strandberg, Scott 86, 126
Strbjak, Kevin 21, 79, 137, 148
Stress Down 28
Stress Up 26
Strick, Marc 9, 18, 62, 170
Stuart, Billy 70, 122, 136, 148
Stuart, Nedra 86, 164
Student Government 180, 182, 184, 191, 192, 193, 239
Studniarz, Amanda 62
Studniarz, Matt 70, 122
Stump, Amanda 79, 181
Sulkowski, Andrew 79
Sun Seekers 229
Sunderland, Jim 21, 86, 199
Sunderland, Jordan 31, 45, 70, 162, 164
Sundi, Dijita 11, 86, 158, 170, 186, 190
Surma, Lance 70
Surma, TJ 86, 171
Suszczyk, Susan 70, 190
Svilar, Michael 79
Swing, Ryan 39, 62
Szafasz, Kristen 79, 164, 165, 195
Szanyi, Ryan 86, 101, 174, 178, 185
Szewka, Katie 86, 177, 178, 187
Szymanski, Brian 62

Students stood in line **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** for free fruit

Taber, Christine 62
Tai, Yun 79, 120, 146
Talbot, Craig 86, 170, 173, 181, 187, 193
Tanzillo, Kristin 86, 166, 167
Taylor, Ashley 70
Tepper, Brian 86, 199
Tepperman, Matt 5, 13, 70, 174, 181, 190
Thaera, Nick 49, 57, 62, 170, 181, 182
The Pampered Chef 218
Thespians 193
Thomas, Melissa 79, 170, 177
Thomas, Pat 79, 130
Thomas, Tiffany 22, 40, 62, 203, 225
Thompson, Brandon 31, 62, 105, 142, 143, 170, 197
Thompson, Libbie 70, 132, 138, 152
Thompson, Matt 40
Thompson, Melissa 162
Thompson, Michael 86, 181
Tiberi, Celeste 70, 132, 171, 186, 190
Tiberi, Mike 86, 156
Tips to Pass a Class 102
Tobias, Mr. Robin 144, 145
Tomazin, Colin 79, 143
Tomazin, John 62
Tomczak, Brent 70
Too Much Work 96
Topete, Emilia 62
Topete, Max 70, 122
Topor, Chris 70, 130, 181, 190
Torres, Lauren 86, 162, 164, 165, 174
Toth, Alex 70, 136, 148
Toyama, Tamiko 12, 13, 70, 85, 162, 164, 173, 183, 186, 188, 190, 193
Toyama, Toshiro 86, 98, 120, 146
Treasure, Lauren 39, 62, 177, 178
Tremaine, Alyssa 70
Trgovich, Jeff 86, 177, 178

Triemstra, Becky 86, 110, 144, 145, 178
Tripenfeldas, Mr. Steve 2, 93
Trotman, Kevin 70
Troumouliaris, Ashley 33, 35, 2, 86, 177, 178, 181, 188, 190, 193
Tsolakos, Hali 86, 129
Tsoutsouris, Mrs. Charlene 88, 93
Turan, Simal 62

The U.S. invades Iraq without UN support

Ullman, Mr. Don 93, 170
Umapathy, Arun 79, 130, 190
Umlauf, Valerie 79, 97, 181, 188
Ur, Booram 86, 158, 170, 173, 182, 186, 190
Urbanowicz, Robbie 70, 122

Two valedictorians tie for top honors at graduation

Vacendak, Jen 79, 181
Vaitiekus, Ugnius 79, 173
Vaitiekute, Egle 70, 173
Valand, Susan 5, 86, 106
Van Camp, Elyse 65, 70
Van Camp, Greg 79, 199
Van Der Giessen, Catherine 30, 86
Van Weelden, Aric 70, 137
Van Wieren, Elizabeth 79, 182, 184, 193
Van Wyk, Michael 79
Vance, Mr. Brian 122, 160
Vandersluis, Emilee 79, 182
Vandersteen, Scott 79, 132, 169, 174, 184
Vanis 206
Varney, Joshua 86
Varney, Tiffany 70
Vasich, Nikola 70
Vega, Josh 7, 70
Velasquez, Aubrey 79, 164
Velasquez, Troy 86, 130, 186
Velchek, Ashley 30, 40, 62, 185, 198
Veldkamp, Timothy 86
Ventura, Caitlin 42
Vera, Ian 70, 115, 146, 160
Verkaik, Kelly 67, 79
Vesa, Mrs. Beth 91, 93, 138, 152
Victor, Melissa 70, 205
Villalba, Mireya 79
Villalobos, Rogelio 79
Vogue Hair Studio 218
Volkman, Nick 70, 122, 160
Volkoff, Elizabeth 79, 170, 190
Volkoff, Stephanie 62, 188
Volleyball 132
Vrabel, Nick 62, 105
Vroom, Kathryn 70, 152

Washington D.C. residents ran for cover during fall sniper shootings

Wadas, John 70, 174
Wadas, Mrs. Carrie 92
Wagner, Lane 70, 144, 186, 193
Wagner, Morgan 86, 178
Wallace, Eric 79, 160
Walsh, Mrs. Charlene 93
Wasem, Tim 70, 130, 156
Watson, David 18, 62, 120, 177, 182, 188, 203, 225
Watson, Mrs. Jan 93
Watterson, Katie 22, 70, 129, 190
Webb, Casey 70, 144, 145
Webster, Mark 14, 70
Weekend Fun 22
Weeknight Fun 20
Weichman, Sean 70, 146
Weiss, Lenny 33, 63, 81, 95, 170, 173, 177, 181, 182, 186, 190, 193, 207
Weiss, Lindsay 70, 81, 158, 182, 188, 190, 238
Weiss, Mrs. Jody 81, 93, 115
Weiss, Mrs. Marsha 93
Wells, Manasseh 70
Wells, Mr. Mike 88, 162, 193
Wells, Zac 71
Welsh, Marie 71, 182
Welsh, Stacey 86, 181, 182, 193
Westerlund, Matt 71, 97, 136, 148, 188, 189, 190, 193
Westminister Church 178
Wey, Chris 14, 86, 127
White, Danny 71, 116, 117, 160
White, Jay 63, 127
White, Justin 79
White, Richie 116
Whitlatch, Matthew 86
Whittaker Woods 221
Wible, Elizabeth 71, 125, 170, 181, 190
Wick, Clark 86
Wickland, Kathryn 61, 63, 166, 167
Wilks, Danielle 31, 79, 173, 193
Williams, Brian 71, 146
Williams Eye Institute 222
Williamson, Nikki 11, 63, 118, 119, 162, 185
Wilson, Marc 79
Winterhaler, Pat 87, 148
Witecki, Cara 79, 158, 170, 182, 188, 190
Witkus, Dan 87, 130, 190
Wojciechowski, Victoria 79
Women's Ensemble 178, 188, 193
Wood, Dylan 79
Woods, Mr. Bill 93, 173
Wories, Ms. Janet 132
Wrestling 146
Wright, Lauren 87
Wroblewski, Mr. Steve 88
Wujek, Brian 79, 106
Wysock, Kevin 87, 178

Yellow ribbons adorned community in support of American troops

Yakubovskaya, Lidiya 63
Yamtich, Don 24, 41, 87, 116, 117, 146, 147, 160
Yatsko, Michael 87
Yerga, Jackie 71, 132, 138, 152
York, David 63, 148
Yorke, Mrs. Mary 93, 103, 112
Yothment, Lucas 63
Yothment, Molly 71, 152
Young, Dr. Fredric 208
Young, Jill 87, 97, 158, 170, 190, 193, 208
You're an Adult 44
Yttri, Emily 55, 63, 177, 178, 185, 186, 188
Yurasovich, Kelly 79, 125

Ground Zero memorial designs commemorate Sept. 11 terrorist attacks

Zagorski, David 79, 186
Zagorski, Joe 71, 136, 174, 217
Zante's Fast Food 219
Zarkovic, Goran 79, 185, 205
Zarowny, Eric 79
Zembala, Michael 87
Zenos, Shannon 63, 170, 181, 185, 188
Zerngast, Mario 120, 121, 122, 123, 146, 147
Zerngast, Victor 3, 127, 146
Zgorka, Jennifer 31, 79, 166
Zheng, Luo Jia 87, 112, 178, 186, 188
Zheng, Zhi 170, 209
Ziemba, Steve 146
Zivich, Jennifer 61, 63, 178, 185, 220
Zlamal, Jaime 173, 178, 181
Zudock, Mrs. Violet 99
Zuick, Stacy 87, 181
Zyglowicz, Eric 71, 182

# Paragon 2003

**Editor-in-Chief:** Chris Carlos
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# Colophon

To outsiders, the sights and sounds within the publications room offered amusement. "Pub" activity gave students something to laugh at, to joke about, but never to truly understand.

Few knew the meaning behind the random, nonsensical quotes on the board or the colorful "ladder" that adorned our cabinet.

Carlos often bust out with off-tune renditions of songs, Payal flipped through magazines for inspiration, and Jaime hopelessly laughed at the poor grammar found in each rough draft.

Kathy stained a chair with dog poop she tracked from outside. Kersten told long stories about her latest car problems. And Rachel's obsession with Pottorff coupled with Lisa's relationship with her "mother's boyfriend" produced quality conversations between each of the seven-member staff.

The non-explainable Pub life started when Jaime scribbled her *Any Questions?* idea on the board on the third day of brainstorming. No one could believe a theme would come so easily.

The staff witnessed the joy of frolicking on Dallas' grassy knoll and the stress of finding an extra spread of ads sent into the plant.

During the all-nighters spent at school and in-the-face of mounds of proofs piling higher and higher each day, H always stood behind us and endured each and every deadline alongside both *Crier* and the *Paragon* staffs.

We acknowledge our Herff Jones representative, Lisa Keene, for saving us with food at just the right times and Don Milsap of Halterman Photography Studios for capturing the moments needed to document the year. Another thanks goes out to David Russell who snapped team photos before leaving for France in the spring.

*Paragon* Volume 38 "**Any Questions?**" was printed by Herff Jones, 6015 Travis Ln., Shawnee Mission, KS 66202-2343 with the aid of in-plant Customer Service Adviser Julie Bogart. With a press run of 1,050, the book featured 100 lb. Bordeaux paper. Early orders of the yearbook cost $40, while late May purchases ran $45.

The book features a staff-designed four-color litho cover with flat matte lamination and UV lamination. The cover and theme pages featured a HJ300 Copenhagen blue.

All pages were submitted on disk, using PageMaker 6.5 and Adobe Photoshop. Our staff photographers shot, processed and printed more than 450 rolls of black and white Kodak TMAX 400 film. Halterman Photography Studios in Ottawa, IL, shot all underclass and senior protraits, as well as group shots.

The 2002 *Paragon*, "Code Red," earned a Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold Crown, a National Scholastic Press Association Pacemaker, the Indiana High School Press Association Hoosier Star, and fourth place Best of Show in the midsize category at the JEA/NSPA Fall National Convention in Dallas.

## Waterlogged

**At the sectional awards** ceremony, Mr. Mike Smith, athletic director, shakes hands with Lisa Rietmann, senior, and Liz Hinkleman, junior, after the 50-meter freestyle race. "The fans [at State] got you going," Liz said. "It made you nervous at the same time, but it was a good nervous feeling."

**Decked in snorkeling gear,** Ian Holloway and Ben Stork, seniors, train for Project Biology on Sunday night. "The thing I liked most about Project Bio was that I was able to go on vacation to beautiful Florida with friends from school. It was different because you were learning but having fun learning at the same time," Ben said.

# Say what?

"I thought there were other ways of dealing with Iraq, and I wanted to hear what other kids thought about Bush's decision to go to war," **Cristina Benavente** and **Chetan Chaubal,** sophomores

"I liked the digital camera because it was easier to send [photos] to friends. You could still print photos so you didn't lose them." **Gina Nuzzo, Justin Gulotta,** and **Joe Skertich, seniors**

"I liked the togetherness of Women's Ensembles. It was like a whole other family. I could take all my pent up anger and frustration and let it all out when I sang, and no one had to know." **Kristina Kesely, junior**

## Caped crusader

**Dressed up as Quail Man** from the cartoon *Doug* for Homecoming's superhero day, Lindsay Weiss, freshman, talks to Kim Dooley, freshman. "Right before first hour, I saw another Quail Man and he saw me; and he screamed 'poser!' as I walked by. I said, 'I had this idea a long time ago, and you're the poser.' I was disappointed because I wanted to be the one and only Quail Man." **Suspending a weight on a** toothpick bridge he designed in physics, Kyle Martinez, senior, discovers if it will withstand more weight for more credit. "I liked to research and figure out how bridges and things were built," Kyle said. "But it took up a lot of time and was hard."

**Hello,** is Katie there? ...Katie, turn on Channel 7!"
"**Why, what's going on?**"
"This guy just won an Oscar for Best Documentary Film for *Bowling for Columbine*, and he's totally knocking Bush and the war!"
"Wow, so many people are booing him!"

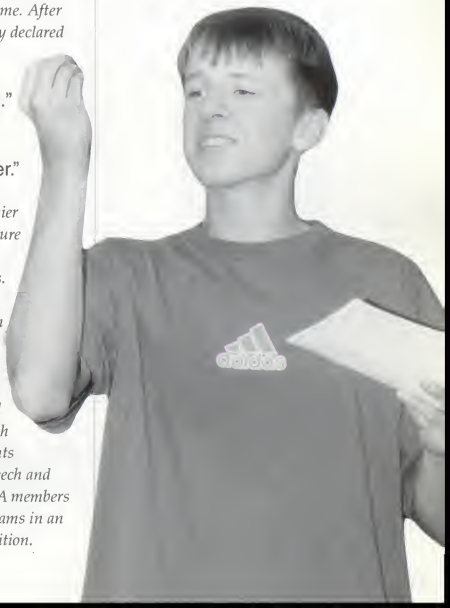
*Hearing director Michael Moore or the Dixie Chicks censure President George W. Bush's war in Iraq or observing eight students speak out to 200 peers in the Fieldhouse's open forum, you witnessed history in the making. Coalition forces stormed Baghdad and hunted down Saddam Hussein and his henchmen April 19, exactly three weeks into the war. Equipped with a deck of 55 playing cards, troops could identify the most wanted Iraqi officials by matching a face to a name. After six weeks of conflict, Bush formally declared the end of major combat May 1.*

"That movie was awesome, man."
"No joke. **How did they do that light saber thing?**"
"I dunno—it probably took forever."

*From Student Government's premier Independent Movie Night to Couture Club's first fashion show, clubs deviated from traditional activities. By participating in one of the 33 clubs, you helped put the school on the map. Student Government helped the Red Cross collect 92 pints of blood, orchestra placed second at ISSMA State,* Crier *and* Paragon *took tops in the state with Hoosier Star awards, seven students traveled to Atlanta in June for Speech and Debate Nationals, and three DECA members landed third place out of 13,000 teams in an international stock market competition.*

"At the beginning of 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,' T.S. Eliot quotes *Dante's Inferno*. I recited the quote in an Italian accent to start out our project. It was pretty funny."

Paul Cowgill, junior



**seeing red**

**Positioning himself under the** hoop, Nate Burchfield, senior, boxes out his EC Central opponent as he fights for a rebound. **During the Homecoming pep** rally, Steve Alspach, freshman, displays his spirited side. "I thought it was funny because no one else really did it before," Steve said. **Reclined in a chair**, Ivan Fitzgerald, senior, watches the Red Cross volunteer disinfect his elbow at the blood drive.

**Keep on truckin'**

In a spirited frenzy, Mike Shideler and John Dumakowski, juniors, cheer on their class's Homecoming spirit truck. "[Having spirit] showed that you were 'true' to your school," Mike said. "You loved your school and everything involved."

**"Can you believe I just saw Jerry Springer's lawyer?"**
"I'm so jealous. My speaker left before my session after getting an emergency phone call from work."
"Oh, was he a physician on call?
No, he was the marketing and advertising guy."

*Crammed into six half-hour sessions, the first Career Day brought in area professionals to showcase 63 possible vocations. But on the following Monday, you could only dream of your future when you counted 24 days left until summer vacation. Mr. Mike Gordon subjected his government class to mock trials of Supreme Court cases on the docket. After handing back the 200-point junior English research papers to anxious students, Mrs. Renee Kouris announced her first perfect paper in 26 years of teaching. Only weeks before, the Munster Teachers' Association rewarded her excellence as an educator with the Crystal Apple Award.*

Not a day went by when you didn't wonder, "Why?" But with a little **serious** explanation and description as to **who we think we are,** we **may have helped you** on your quest to answer some of life's most puzzling questions. Think you have it figured out yet?

any

# Questions?

*Didn't think so.*